

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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The New Wool Tariff

The Building of a Modern Tariff Bill—Adoption of the Clean Content Duty and the Reversion to an Ad Valorem Limitation.

From October 3, 1913, until May 27, 1921, no duties were levied upon wools imported into the United States. Wool growers have not yet recovered from the effects of low markets which could have been avoided largely, with advantage to all parts of our population, by a provision for giving home producers a measure of protection against foreign competitors in the markets of our own country, which are the ones in which home producers must do all of their buying.

The Emergency Tariff

The present administration, after ten weeks of deliberation, finally made law of the plan that had the approval of both branches of the previous Congress, and along with other duties, those on wool were restored for a period of six months. This, the Emergency Tariff Bill, was made effective for a period of six months in the expectation that by or before the end of that period the general revision of the regular tariff bill would have been completed and enacted by Congress as the law of the land for an indefinite period. Under the Emergency Tariff Act duties were placed upon agricultural articles that had been upon the free list since 1913, including sugar, lemons, milk, lamb and wheat. Fifteen cents per pound was levied upon grease wool and 45 cents upon scoured wool. Fleeces changed in value by skirting or other preparation are taxed 30 cents per pound. These duties have had the effect of checking imports of all but small amounts of the fancier wools and of turning mill purchases to domestic wools and to the very large amounts that had been received from abroad subsequent to the first introduction of the emergency measure in

Congress in December and its ultimate passage on May 27 last.

The Regular Tariff Bill

On June 29, the Ways and Means Committee of the House of Representatives reported out its revision of the tariff law as recommended for pas-

but not before the House had approved it by a large majority as necessary to a stabilization of business and particularly of agricultural affairs.

Measures that provide for the raising of revenue are required to originate in the lower body of Congress. While the Senate may modify the terms of the bill submitted to it, such changes must be approved by the other branch before the bill can be presented for the approval of the President, which is necessary to its becoming a law.

The House Committee, under Chairman Fordney, devoted ten weeks to hearing all those who wished to offer facts or opinions for consideration in the shaping of the new bill. Wool manufacturers appeared on January 31 followed by representatives of wool growers, headed by President F. J. Hagenbarth. By their questions and remarks, members of the committee displayed an attitude of reluctance to assess duties either equal to or higher than those levied by the Payne-Aldrich Act of 1909, which rightly or wrongly became somewhat unpopular and was largely used in changing the political complexion of the Congress elected in 1910. This attitude appears to have been conceived chiefly as in line with political wisdom more than through unbiased consideration for the requirements of the commercial situation and the condition of home industries as developed by after-effects of war and post-war expansion.

On the other hand the committee, including the members of both parties, plainly recognized the error of the Underwood bill in endeavoring to foster the manufacturing industry and leaving the producers of food and material

SHIP LAMBS WHEN READY

The annual fall congestion of shipments of lambs to market is a serious matter for the wool grower. We have been urged by packers and everybody well informed and interested in the subject that growers have a tendency to hold their lambs too long. **SHIP YOUR LAMBS AS NEARLY AS POSSIBLE AT 4½ MONTHS OF AGE AND NOT LATER THAN 5 MONTHS AFTER LAMBING.** February lambs should be marketed in July; March lambs in August, etc. Do not yield to the temptation of good feed this fall and make the mistake of holding your lambs beyond 5 months in hopes of getting a bigger and heavier lamb. Your big lamb sells for less money, glut the fall market and hurts everybody, including yourself. **F. J. Hagenbarth.**

sage as permanent legislation. Inasmuch as Republicans were in control of the lower house prior to March 4 and the same members would continue to serve under the new administration, preparation of the new permanent bill was begun in January, before the emergency bill was disposed of,

for clothing subject to the full effect of whatever could develop in the way of competition of cheap imports which flooded our markets in 1920. In other words, the past ten years have taught statesmen and politicians that there is a standard of rural life in America, which must be regarded and maintained no less than that of factory workers and city residents whose employment and business so largely grows out of manufacturing enterprises. The war helped to emphasize the lesson of having regard for the value of home-produced materials and of developing a measure of commercial independence by guarding against undermining home industry by reserving to home producers the first opportunity to sell in the markets of their country. In the case of such a commodity as wool that can be produced in the United States in much larger quantities and at reasonable cost, it appears to be altogether to the interests of the entire citizenship to make provision against the use of our markets as dumping places for supplies from countries temporarily enjoying the advantage of lower cost of production, which advantage must some day vanish and throw American mills back upon home-grown supplies.

A new factor in tariff matters developed from the desire of financial interests for low duties on agricultural, food, and clothing materials receivable from countries offering an outlet for the surplus of American manufacturers.

The Clean Content Duty

In the case of Schedule "K," covering wools and products of wool, discussions centered not so much upon the need of a duty as upon its amount and the basis upon which it should be levied. The growers urged that it was time to abandon the system first established in 1867 and perpetuated in the bill of 1909, under which grease wools paid 11 cents per pound regardless of the actual amount of useable wool contained.

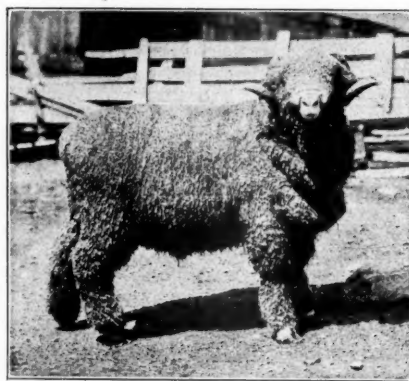
At the time this arrangement was first adopted most imported wool had a shrinkage of 66 2-3 per cent and the

eleven-cent grease duty was practically equivalent to the imposed duty of 33 cents per pound on wool arriving in the scoured state. With the production of lighter shrinking wools in some countries and with the practice of removing the heavier parts of fleeces, it was found possible to bring in for eleven cents considerably more than the one-third of a pound of actual wool as originally contemplated.

The Ways and Means Committee finally decided that in their new bill, Schedule "K" should recognize the clean content of levying a duty upon wool. Despite the insistence of the growers, a rate of 25 cents per clean pound of wool was inserted.

Limiting the Twenty-five-Cent Duty

Probably there will always be argu-



One of Seely's Top Yearling Rambouillet Stud Rams

ments over the relative value of specific duties and ad valorem duties. The importer argues for an ad valorem duty because of its flexibility and adjustment to changing values. The Treasury, however, is unable to forecast the amount of duty that can be collected from a commodity of which it is possible to foretell the amount of imports but of which the value cannot be estimated. On the other hand a specific duty of so many cents per pound shows definitely the amount of revenue to be derived from an average volume of imports. The wool growers also contended that when values were high the fixed duty would be lower in proportion and thus facilitate imports without burdening the consumer with

higher duties as must occur in the case of an ad valorem rate. With wools on a lower basis the fixed duty gives higher rate of protection when the grower most needs it and when the consumer can best pay his share.

The advanced position of the committee was largely nullified, when, in the final draft of the bill it was provided, in paragraph 1102, that in no case should the amount of duty collected exceed 35 per cent of the American value.

It appears that this retraction may have been in part a result of unjustified press statements that the 1909 rates were to be increased through the operation of the 25-cent, clean wool duty. The Tariff Commission states that the average shrinkage of imported Australian and South American wools is 48 per cent. At this rate .52 pounds of wool under the old system paid 11 cents duty or 21 cents per clean pound. When consideration is given to the volume of heavy South African wools shrinking over 70 per cent, it is very plain that the first proposal of the committee was by no means an advance over the rates of ten years ago but that on the other hand it is a modern, scientific schedule, just to manufacturers and consumers and affording a minimum of effective aid to the growing interests.

Under the provisions of the bill in its present form, the importer of finer wools of light shrinkage would pay a duty of 25 cents. On fancier lines valued in the neighborhood of \$1 per pound this would amount to 25 per cent. In the case of coarser grades the clean value, in this country, would now run from 30 to 75 cents. In such a case the 25-cent duty would be more than 35 per cent of the value and an amount equal to 35 per cent would be collected. Take even the case of coarse wools worth 40 cents clean. Their duty would be only 14 cents. Similar wools grown here shrink 50 per cent or more. With the high price of 40 cents and the low shrinkage of 50 per cent, the protection to the American grower of such wool is seven cents. With more typical value and shrinkage it would be as low as

four or five cents. And this applies to the type of wools that must largely be produced if meat production is to be given its proper place in our range sheep economy.

Mixed Duties Don't Work

A combination of specific and ad valorem duties cannot do justice. The specific duty on scoured content is alone defensible and should be placed at a fair figure, independent of restrictions based upon the opposite unfair method. The matter is now out of the hands of the Ways and Means Committee and before the House of Representatives. Individual appeals to over four hundred Congressmen should be made from their constituents. The National Wool Growers Association has advised Congressmen of the inadequateness of the schedule in its present form. Further argument will be made before the Finance Committee of the Senate should the schedule be sent to the upper house in its present unsuitable form.

The clean content duty is the only fair and proper form of protection for wool. Its recognition is a distinct step in advance. Every effort will be made to place the figure at a more adequate level but right now, it is necessary to see that the ground gained is not surrendered by restriction in terms of an unworkable style of duty.

In the early stages of the framing of the bill it was objected by some that estimates of shrinkage at the port of entry could not be made in a satisfactory manner by custom officials. It was shown that since most of the trade in wools is done upon the basis of estimated yields, no real obstacle existed. The present hybrid plan, however, in addition to requiring an estimate of yield also requires the checking of the claimed valuation, thereby opening up wide dangers of deceit.

The third major objection to the 35 per cent maximum duty is found in its being wholly inapplicable in any system of adjusting compensatory duties on manufactured goods. In the schedule, as at present written, the following rates appear, as contrasted with

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the corresponding rates carried in the Underwood bill that operated from 1913 until May of this year:

PROPOSED FORDNEY RATES

Wool and Mohair: 25 cents per pound of clean content:

Scoured wool, 26 cents per pound of clean content; Wool on skins, 24 cents per pound of clean content:

Provided, that none of the foregoing shall pay a higher rate of duty than 35 per centum ad valorem.

(Underwood Rates—Free)

Carpet Wools: 28 per centum ad valorem but not to exceed 7 cents per pound.

(Underwood Rates—Free)

Yarn: Valued at not more than 55 cents per pound;

Protective duty, 15 per cent;

Compensatory duty, 20 cents per pound.

Value more than 55 cents and not more than \$1.50.

Protective, 18 per cent;

Compensatory, 30 cents per pound.

Valued at more than \$1.50.

Protective, 20 per cent;

Compensatory, 30 cents per pound.

(Underwood Rates—18 Per Cent)

Cloth: Woven fabrics weighing more than 4 ounces per square yard:

Value not more than 75 cents per pound.

Protective, 18 per cent;

Compensatory, 20 cents.

Valued over 75 cents and not over \$1.25 per pound.

Protective, 21 per cent;

Compensatory, 25 cents per pound.

Valued over \$1.25 and not over \$2.50 per pound.

Protective, 24 per cent;

Compensatory, 30 cents per pound.

Valued over \$2.50 per pound.

Protective, 27½ per cent;

Compensatory, 36 cents per pound.

(Underwood Rate—35 Per Cent)

Blankets: Value not over 75 cents per pound.

Protective, 20 per cent.

Compensatory, 20 cents per pound.

Value over 75 cents and not more than \$1.50 per pound.

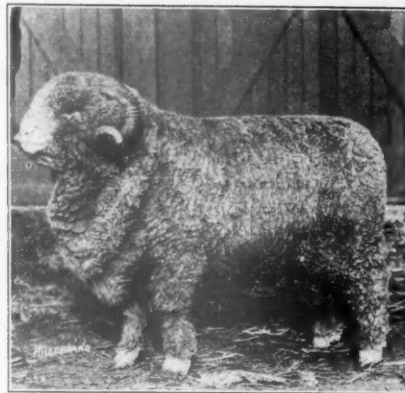
Protective, 20 per cent.

Compensatory, 25 cents per pound.

(Underwood Rate—25 Per Cent)

The compensatory duties shown above are intended to place American manufacturers on an equality with those of countries having no wool duties. Under free wool no compensatory duties were called for. The protective duties shown are for the protection of the manufacturer solely as a manufacturer and compare directly with the rates shown as obtaining under the last administration.

The figures above show either as the glaring effect of haste in framing the schedule or a very crude move to give



J. M. Moran's Chief Stud Ram.—Butterfield 2661. Sire of the Moran entries to Salt Lake Sale.

increased manufacturing protection under the guise of compensation for something accorded to the wool grower. For the present the Wool Grower prefers to consider that the 35-per-cent restriction on wool was added at a late period of the committee's work and that the compensatory duties may be properly adjusted on the floor of the House. If this is not done, it must certainly be done by the Senate. As apparently originally intended, the compensatory duties accord with those on wool. They represent the amount of duty chargeable (at 25 cents per clean pound) to the wool contained in the various classes of goods. Aside from increasing the 25-cent rate of duty, the bill can readily be made useful by eliminating the 35 per cent proviso.

HEAVY IDAHO LAMBS

On June 22, James Farmer, of Bliss, Idaho, sold 909 lambs on the Chicago market at 13 cents. These lambs weighed 77 pounds and brought \$10 gross per head. They were out of good cross-bred ewes and sired by registered Hampshire rams that Farmer bought at the Salt Lake Ram Sale from Selway and Gardiner. They were lambed in the early part of February and struck the market at the right moment.

S. W. McClure.

Nampa, Idaho.

Shrinkage Tests For Wool Growers

By J. M. JONES

Chief, Division of Animal Industry, Texas Experiment Station

A standard three-bowl Sargent wool-scouring machine and wool dryer have been installed by the experiment station of the Texas Agricultural and Mechanical College at College Station, Texas, for the purpose of determining the shrinkage of Texas wools for the benefit of progressive woolgrowers, who are eager to gain a further knowledge of the product upon which they are almost wholly dependent.

The realization of this wool-scouring plant is the result of the faithful and consistent support rendered by the executive committee of the Sheep and Goat Raisers Association of Texas, their first action being in the adoption of a resolution at the quarterly session held in Del Rio in February, 1919, urging the state legislature to make an appropriation with which to establish a wool-scouring plant to be operated at the Texas A. & M. College, under the supervision of the director of the Texas experiment station. In July, 1919, a bill providing for the establishment of such a plant was passed by the Texas legislature and signed by Governor Hobby.

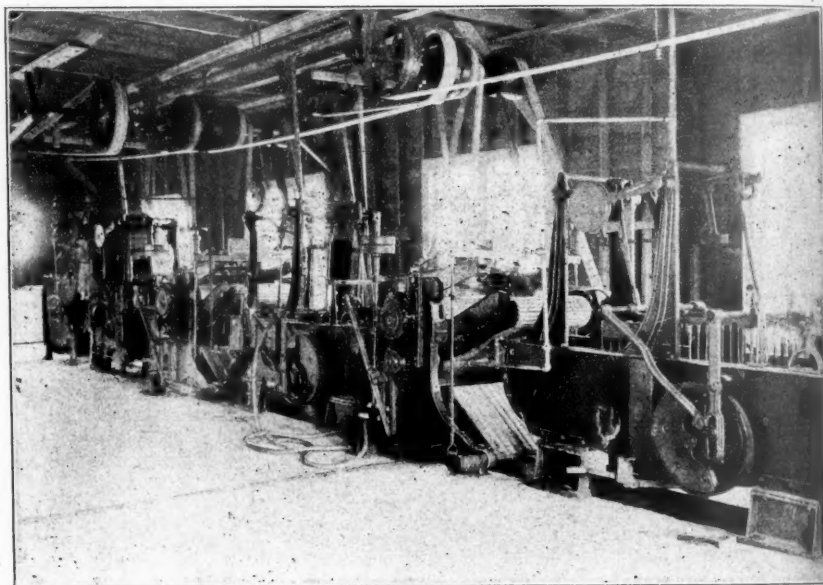
The equipment of the wool-scouring and conditioning plant was ordered early in the fall of 1919, but on account of the abnormal conditions prevailing throughout the manufacturing districts in the East during that year the machinery was not delivered to the A. & M. College until June, 1920.

The wool-scouring machinery, which is the most modern that was available at the time of the purchase, has been installed and is now ready to be placed in operation. Mr. Hal Hamilton of Del Rio, Texas, one of the state's most prominent and progressive ranchmen, was the first wool grower to take advantage of the opportunity to secure shrinkage tests, he having recently forwarded 1,000 pounds of wool to the college to undergo the scouring test.

Mr. Richard Riley, a practical wool sorter and scourer, has been engaged temporarily to assist in the operation

of the scouring plant. Mr. Riley came to the college well recommended.

The woolgrowers of the United States, more than those of any other progressive country in the world, should be placed in a position to receive the benefit of the most advanced information concerning the production of good wool that might be made available as a result of research and the investigation of the problems that actually are of concern to them.



Sargent Three-bowl machine used to determine shrinkage

The most valuable and nearly perfect wool fibers are produced or developed by sheep of superior breeding, managed under the most favorable conditions. It is therefore obvious that, owing to the great differences possible of obtaining in the wool fiber, there is an increased necessity for further research or study by agricultural experiment stations on the problems confronting the wool growers, in order that as a result of further enlightenment we might place ourselves in a position to take the foremost place in the production of raw wool. Our American wool growers should strive to produce in their flocks, as

nearly as possible, perfect wool. Perfect material with which to work is the basis of perfect spinning, and although the perfect standard will in all probability be slightly beyond our goal, we might, with the proper enlightenment and training, expect to approach it within appreciable limits. Every effort spent towards this goal will bear fruitful results.

A more generous and thorough knowledge of wool production on the range and on the farm can be made possible as a result of a thorough study of the several problems of the grower. The wool fiber, next to cotton, is the

most valuable and important utilized by civilized man, and has been in constant use since prehistoric times. Volumes have been written upon the subject of the wool fiber, its structure and the various usages to which it has been placed. The lack of a thorough knowledge of the subject of wool in our American agricultural colleges is appalling, and with but a few exceptions our agricultural colleges have always treated the subject of wool in a crude and indifferent fashion. This might well be attributed to the lack of the proper conception of the great importance of the subject, wool, and also to the probability that the major-

ity of instructors, who teach this subject in our animal husbandry departments, have not had the opportunity to master it thoroughly.

It is the aim of the Texas agricultural experiment station to undertake a study of some of the real problems of the range wool growers, with a view of making available for them and agricultural college students information which will enable them to produce a superior staple as a result of a more thorough understanding of the business in which they are engaged.

Wool growers are invited to send representative wool samples to the chief of the division of animal industry, Texas experiment station, College Station, Texas, by prepaid freight. They will be asked to supply certain information regarding the size of the clip, the kind of range, breed of sheep, approximate ages, and kind of sheep that the sample represents. After the test of each sample has been made the owner will be promptly notified of the results. If he desires, the scoured wool samples will be returned to him; however, it is the plan of the experiment station to dispose of the samples to the best possible advantage, reimbursement later to be made to the owners of the respective samples.

INCREASED SLAUGHTER AND FEWER FEEDER SHIPMENTS AT SHEEP MARKETS

An increase of 29.2 per cent in the number of sheep slaughtered at 69 markets is reported for the first five months of 1921.

For May alone the increase in slaughter was 43 per cent or 1,014,000 as compared to 706,000 in 1920. The extra slaughter in May was in part the result of light shipments to feeders, the number so shipped in May from all markets being 153,000 in contrast to 234,000 in May one year ago.

Feeder shipments during the first five months of this year were 493,000 in comparison with 1,090,000 in the same part of 1920.

The total receipts of sheep at the 69 markets (including those counted at more than one point) for the five months of 1921 and 1920, respectively, are 8,647,000 and 7,299,000. The unexpectedly heavy shipments in spite of the light lamb crop last year are now known to be largely the result of the almost complete shipments of the ewe lambs, which, with the wethers, have been coming to market from the feed lots during the present year.

It is certain that there is no reserve of marketable sheep in the country to

show up at later markets this year. It is also apparent that breeding flocks have been largely drawn upon, which must greatly limit the volume of future arrivals at the markets.

RAMS FOR THE SALT LAKE SALE

Recently while at John Curran's at Hagerman, Idaho, I saw a very choice lot of cross-bred rams that are going to the Salt Lake sale. These are as good a bunch as I have seen for a long time.

Mr. Curran is in the market for 2,000 cross-bred ewes, but he wants them to be out of cross-bred ewes and sired by cross-bred rams. His experience with cross-bred rams has convinced him that for the production of range ewes, there is nothing equal to them.

S. W. McClure.

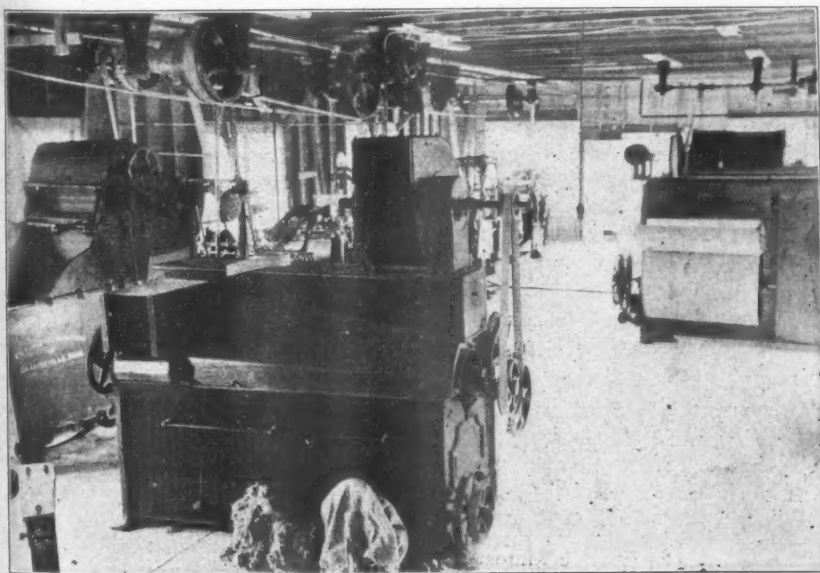
Nampa, Idaho.

EWES ALL OLD

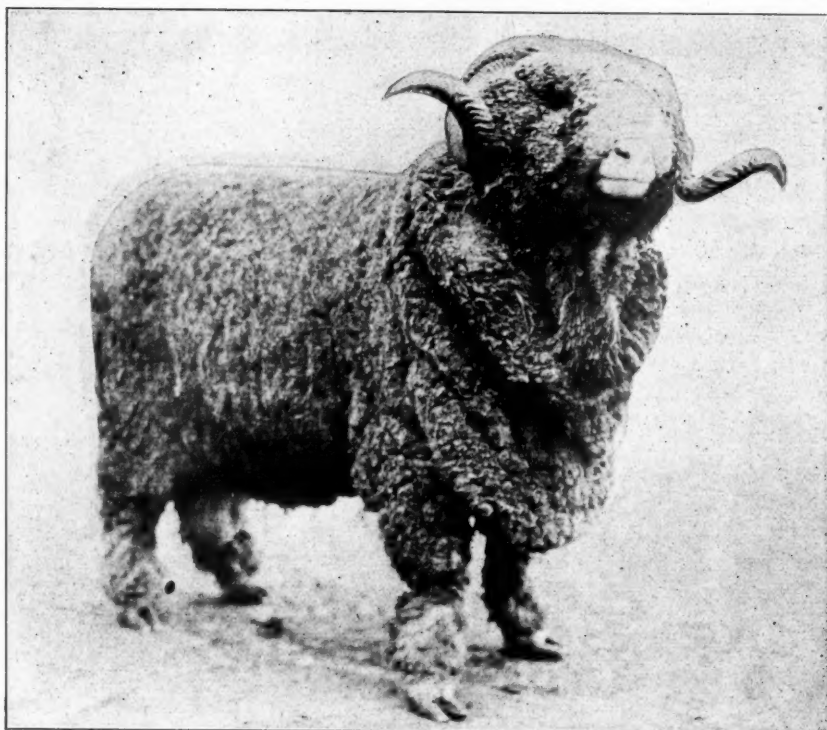
A banker in Idaho who has a large sheep clientele made the statement the other day that 75 per cent of the ewes in Idaho were five years old or older. Many Idaho sheepmen are of the opinion that this estimate is very close to the mark. This is rather a sad truth to be called to the attention of sheepmen during a year when all their lambs are blackfaces and must go to market. However, sheepmen who are financially able are already looking around for ewe lambs to put in this fall. It would not be surprising to see large numbers of them bought before snow falls. In spite of the low price of cross-bred wools, Idaho will buy nothing but cross-bred ewe lambs. No one knows where this class of ewe lambs is to be obtained, for the coarse-wooled buck was generally discarded about three years ago. There is no demand in Idaho for fine-wooled ewes and there has not been for ten years or more.

Nampa, Idaho. S. W. McClure.

Mr. J. C. Kinney of Cokeville, Wyoming, has recently taken delivery on 13,000 Idaho ewes, obtained through Hall & Fenn of Ogden.



Conditioning apparatus of the scouring plant at the Texas Experiment Station



Seely's 3-year-old Rambouillet Ram, C1303, one of the good breeding sons of the famous "62" and sire of many of the Seely stud rams entered at the Salt Lake Sale.

OUTLOOK OF SHEEP BUSINESS IN LINCOLN COUNTY

The winter of 1920-21 in this locality proved to be one of the ordinary ones that the sheepmen feel they can stand, yet there is an old saying that "if you wait until about April 15th, you can predict with reasonable safety what kind of winter weather we are going to have."

This proved to be no exception in 1920-21. Sheep entered the winter in good shape, passed through a great part of it and came along at a premium pace until April 15th, only to be caught in one of those phenomenal stages of extension of the solar system and to find themselves again in the midst of winter.

The result of this unusually cold and stormy period, which prolonged winter into what should have been spring, was that the sheepmen's losses were as heavy as in the so-called hard winters of the past few years. Shearing was delayed and sheep that on the first of April were looking fine, and

really were in good condition, were so changed by the first of May as to remind one of the sad, hungry look worn for the most part by the sheepmen themselves for the past two years.

Lambing, too, looked to be up to the usual average, so that the sheepmen, who are the greatest gamblers in the world, began to feel encouraged, and to preach optimism. With a fair lamb crop and some cash for their wool they thought that this old world wasn't such a bad place after all. Then there were the prospects for feed, both summer and winter, the best in several years. Can you blame us for cheering up?

After lambing came shearing, with wool buyers about as numerous as hen's teeth, the few that did come around telling us of the unusual dullness prevailing in the business. By the way, these wool buyers are exceptionally good talkers and come to us equipped with some almost unanswerable arguments, so that the poor fish who raises the wool sometimes

cannot help but take hook, line and sinker.

In due time they inform the wool grower that his wool is not salable, owing to mysterious market conditions, but that it should really be consigned to his house, probably at Boston, where it can be sorted over and parcels of same sold from time to time, thus furnishing some money to warrant an advance.

This "advance" will, as an accommodation, be made at the rate of 12 cents per pound, with 8 per cent interest. Then there will be interest on the insurance, also freight and storage, capped by an additional charge of $2\frac{1}{2}$ cents per pound for selling. This might be "o. k." on wool at 50 cents or higher, but on 12-cent wool is out of all proportion, for the freight and other drains upon the wool clip and its sale upon the Boston market will total about 6 cents.

However, as I have frequently said, the wool growers are not only the greatest gamblers in the world, but the most unquenchable optimists, and I am convinced that if all of them who are now calmly facing bankruptcy, had devoted the time and painstaking attention to the mastery of the Great American Game (poker), that they have to the sheep business, they would all be enjoying a comfortable competence.

May they all continue to face the rising sun and may that sun dispel the gloom now surrounding the sheep and wool industry, exposing the silver lining which we all feel certain is still there, even though we are unable to sell wool and the majority of sheepmen here are holding a year's clip like sheep fellows in other localities.

T. Hunter Salmon.

Kemmerer, Wyoming.

The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association is half a co-operative livestock commission company. A plan of organizing a \$50,000 corporation in conjunction with the Texas Farm Bureau Federation is under consideration.

Wood vs. Sap In Lamb

What the trade knows as the "wooden" lamb, costs producers a large sum of money in the aggregate annually. Not only is it an economic waste but its product creates prejudice against the meat.

This objection applies to all young domestic animals that contribute to the food supply. Let a calf pass the veal stage and it is severely penalized at the market. There is a psychological moment in the development of an animal when its flesh is in such condition as to entitle it to a premium.

In this respect lamb is peculiarly susceptible to deterioration on passing the "sappy" stage. A "sappy" lamb is as desirable from the killers' standpoint as a "wooden" one is undesirable. The meat not only has a poor appearance in the carcass, but is unpalatable in the mastication process. And by far too large a percentage of Western lambs are of the "wooden" variety.

"The sappy lamb is not over 4½ months old," said C. H. Shurte. "It must have its milk fat, otherwise the meat is stringy and tasteless. Lambs dropped in February should be marketed in June; April lambs are due in August, and May dropped lambs in September. By adopting a general policy of shipping lambs anywhere from four to five months old growers would put money in their own pockets and do much toward popularizing the meat."

"The wooden lamb is convertible into product that is either unmerchantable or is seriously handicapped in the selling process," said Robert Matheson. "A green retailer might be deceived in such a carcass, but the average butcher knows them on sight. They constitute one of the most knotty problems confronting the killer, and it is all the more aggravating when the fact is realized that much of it is unnecessary. There are, of course, growers who are not in a position to ship their lambs in sappy, prime condition, but if those who could, did so, the objection would be largely overcome."

The examples of such breeders as John Van Deusen and James Farmer of Idaho might well be emulated."

The Cleveland and Skillern lambs afford other examples. Buyers know the condition in which such bands are loaded, buying them on reputation.

Nothing is more misleading than the apparent condition of a band of lambs. At four to five months old they look small to the grower whose natural inclination is to hold for the purpose of putting on weight. His feed may be good, affording added incentive to hold, whereas he is actually using doubtful judgment. The moment milk supply diminishes the lamb's condition changes to its detriment as far as the condition and quality of the meat is concerned, provided it is destined for the block that season. As the ewe dries up and the lacteal period draws to a close this is aggravated. A contrast between two carcasses, one sappy, the other a few weeks past that stage will be convincing; unfortunately few growers are able to benefit by such visualization.

The heavy run of range lambs that reaches Chicago and Omaha during September and October carries a burden of wooden lambs, a large percentage of which could have been advantageously and profitably loaded when four and a half to five months old; in fact at least half of them should go to the butcher in July and August, thereby not only making the product more valuable and merchantable, but avoiding September and October congestion. By this means July, August and September would absorb a much larger percentage of the crop.

It must be admitted that some sections are not so located as to permit the movement of lambs in the sappy stage; parts of Washington, for instance, where the summer grazing ground is remote from shipping points, necessitating moving ewes and lambs together. But these are isolated cases and in the opinion of the trade a large proportion of the Western lamb crop would benefit by having its market

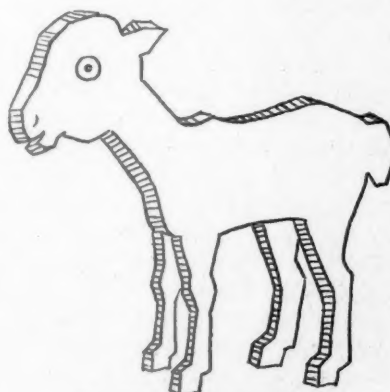
schedule moved several weeks ahead.

Growers take the position that shipping lambs early entails sacrifice in the matter of weight. This is doubtless true but, if killers are to be given credence, this is only questionable economy, their position being that earlier moving would give the product added value, facilitate distribution, popularize the product with consumers and alleviate the congestion that invariably develops at the market during the September to December period, when native lambs show up in profusion. An October glut is the regular thing under present conditions as natives show up in profusion at that period, Montana and Wyoming must move lambs late in the season and feeders have a pronounced disposition to market early bought Western stuff prematurely. Oregon has been a conspicuous offender by holding lambs too long.

Another advantage in putting lambs on the rails early is that they travel better in sappy than dried-out condition, thereby avoiding loss by excessive shrinkage.

Killers are openly advocating early marketing as distinctly advantageous, both to themselves and producers. The product of dried-out lambs is the bane of the distributor and has probably done more to prejudice consumers against lamb than any other factor. The fact that fewer early lambs are being dropped than in former years renders this expedient especially desirable.

J. E. Poole



Mr. Poole's Wooden Lamb

Wool Matters In Australia

By Our Special Correspondent

The wool position has improved of late and consequently wool growers are feeling a little more hopeful.

The British Australian Realization Association (Bawra) has invoked legislation to prevent free wool being disposed of indiscriminately as regards price. ("Free wool" is that shorn since the close of government control and outside the Bawra plan).

Early this month the following resolution was agreed to by Parliament:

"(1) That the House approved of the issue of proclamation under the Customs Act, 1901-1920, prohibiting for a period not exceeding six months, the exportation of wool from the Commonwealth unless:

"(a) In the case of wool purchased within the Commonwealth, a price not lower than the price agreed upon as the official reserve, in respect of wool of that type, is paid by the purchaser, either at auction or by private treaty, and

"(b) In the case of wool consigned for sale over sea, security is given to the satisfaction of the Minister for Trade and Customs that the wool will not be sold, either publicly or privately, at a price lower than the equivalent of the price agreed upon as the official reserve, in respect of wool of that type, plus the freight and other charges on the wool from the port of shipment, in Australia, to the place of sale over seas.

"Provided that the price agreed upon as the official reserve in respect of wool of each type shall be such a price as will produce an average price of 16 cents per pound for an average Australian wool clip; and that such official reserve shall be determined by the British-Australian Wool Realization Association, Limited, in accordance with the principles upon which the prices of wool were determined by the central wool committee during the period of sales to the British Government.

"(2) That the resolution be forwarded to the Senate for its concurrence."

In moving this resolution it was explained that what was meant by the official reserve, referred to in the proviso, was that the average price of the 858 types into which Australian wool had been classified, must work out at 16 cents a pound. Some wool might be worth 60 or 70 cents a pound. Other wool might be worth only 4 or 5 cents a pound, but in the classification of the whole of the 858 types, the average price must be 16 cents. The average Australian clip was to be ascertained by an average of three years of Bawra control—the years 1916-17, 1918, and 1918-19. The average of these three years enabled them to obtain the fair average Australian clip, and thus the types under which the average was made were fixed. The machinery for this was already in existence. The best experts in the world had been gathered together in Bawra regardless of any other consideration than the interests of the industry, and therefore the machinery was adopted for the ascertainment of the minute details necessary to the fixing of the reserve. The Central Wool Committee was also introduced into the machinery, and with it would rest the final determination regarding what the reserve should be and what the price should be for the 858 types. An amount of 16 cents was fixed as the average, because it was well below the profit line. The House had no right to determine the profits of wool sellers or wool buyers. It was only concerned with the preservation of a national industry. Since the bulk of the Bawra wool had already netted out a good price, and most of the remainder might be regarded as plus profits, it was clear that the reserve should be such as not to interfere with the making or losing of profits by the individual sellers. The object of the scheme was to reconstitute the markets of Europe, and the government did not see how that was to be done by withholding the wool from those markets.

Auction sales under the above con-

ditions have been held at Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane and again at Sydney, and although the offerings at each center were limited practically all catalogues were disposed of.

Respecting the most recent sales in Sydney the main feature was the improved demand for faulty sorts. As the Official Organ of the Sydney Wool Trade says, no development could be more welcome than this, seeing that throughout the season so far the demand has been principally running on the better descriptions with the result that buyers have been to a large extent "picking the eyes" out of the clip. It naturally follows that a very large proportion of the wools that remain in store awaiting realization come under the category of medium and faulty sorts. The selection offered was a suitable one for a thorough testing of the market. It comprised practically all Merino wools, including a fair sprinkling of super sorts with a big display of medium and faulty descriptions and there was also a fair showing of cross-breds. The demand on Japanese account was the most noticeable feature. Local users were very active and rendered good support and the Continental section bid freely for medium and faulty sorts. Super wools were, if anything, hardly up to the point reached at the previous series and prices at times were barely maintained, although some of the sales were highly satisfactory. This was particularly noticeable in the case of really superfine wools. Prices generally were, however, well above Bawra reserves and medium to good wools maintained their own well under good competition, and values showed practically no change from the last series.

The biggest improvement was undoubtedly in the case of the lower grades of Merinos and carbonizing pieces and bellies were distinctly better. It is difficult to put the improvement into an actual quotation, but it would probably be quite safe to say that carbonizing descriptions were fully ten per cent above the previous sales. Locks and crutchings were in better demand than at any previous period of the season. Cross-breds gen-

erally were rather firmer and the improved demand extended to the faulty sorts. There were still some irregularity in the competition and in odd cases the bids were below anticipations, but on the whole the clearances were very complete and satisfactory.

It must not be thought that the level of prices obtained at recent sales in the Commonwealth is the result of the Bawra reserve. Buyers are operating according to their instructions, and it is satisfactory that the sales show a steady demand for all sorts which

average out above the Bawra reserve. There has been talk of Bawra insisting upon buyers giving the names of their consignees which is looked upon by the buyers as interference and if enforced will probably make them very restive.

It remains to be seen how long present prices will prevail. Some think the demand is only a flash in the pan, others think it is the consequence of a large and steady demand for wool.

May 27, 1921.

The Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Meeting and Sale

The Sixth Annual Convention of the Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association of Texas was held at Del Rio, Texas, June 21 to 23. President Bob Martin called the first session of the convention to order promptly at 10:00 a. m., June 21. Addresses of welcome were delivered by Judge La Max Smith and Honorable W. M. Abbey, each of whom welcomed the association back to the city of its birth and extended the hospitality of its citizenship. Captain James T. Elliott, publisher of The Sheep and Goat Raisers' Magazine, in his able response, declared that the country between Del Rio and San Angelo is the greatest sheep country in the world.

In his annual address President Martin reviewed the activities of the association. He stated that the inspectors had succeeded in breaking up organized gangs of thieves and that through the protection afforded to members losses due to thievery have been reduced to a minimum. In discussing the tariff he informed the convention of the activities of his office in an effort to secure the enactment of the Emergency Tariff Bill which was passed by Congress but later vetoed by Woodrow Wilson. He lauded Secretary Thurmond for having so ably represented the interests of the Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association at the hearing of the Ways and Means Committee last winter. He furthermore made grateful

acknowledgment of those who had contributed to a fund raised for the purpose of sending a representative to Washington to look after the best interests of the sheep and goat industry.

President Martin stated that owing to the present financial conditions and the ruinous freight rates on livestock, co-operative effort upon the part of the stockmen is more imperative than ever before. He urged an increased membership for the association and a true rendition of livestock. With regard to co-operative marketing he stated that such a method would be desirable if all growers would lend their efforts in that direction.

In referring to the labor situation, he stated that ranchmen were willing to accord the laborer the right to a fair living wage, but he thought that under present conditions that wages should be reduced.

He urged that a committee be appointed to make a thorough investigation of the feasibility of the establishment of wool and mohair mills in Texas. He lauded the efforts of Congressman Claude Hudspeth for his untiring efforts in behalf of the sheep and goat industry.

Secretary George Thurmond reported the financial status of the association and urged the members to support the organization. In a discussion of the credit system of the country he

urged the adoption of a plan of financing whereby the stockmen will be given long time loans. He paid a glowing tribute to the pioneers who developed the Western range country and made it to produce, and he furthermore stated in referring to the "rock bottom" prices being received for wool that the industry "shall not be wrecked by a wool market controlled by the finances of the country."

Honorable Walter F. Jones, of Del Rio, delivered a brief address on the "Extermination of Predatory Animals." He stated that a bill providing \$400,000.00 for the destruction of predatory animals had been passed by the 37th Legislature but that the measure failed to receive the signature of the state's chief executive. He appealed to the association to send representatives to Austin during the legislative sessions in order to look out for the enactment of laws which will protect the welfare of the sheep and goat raisers of Texas.

At the second day's session J. M. Jones of the Texas Experiment Station addressed the convention upon the subject of "Range Wool Improvement." He briefly reviewed the early sheep industry of this country and compared the methods of sheep breeding and wool marketing of the U. S. with the leading sheep countries of the world.

Congressman Claude Hudspeth in the absence of Honorable J. H. Kirby, president of Southern Tariff Association, discussed the tariff question in an able and eloquent manner. He declared that if sheep and goatmen intended to conduct their business profitably they must fight for a protective tariff on wool, mohair, hides and frozen mutton. "A tariff on imports that would equalize the cost of production is one of the vital issues if the stock raising industry is to be perpetuated," Congressman Hudspeth declared. He said that under the Underwood tariff bill there was a 45 per cent duty on manufactured goods while the wool grower was given no protection on wool. He stated that the New England Republicans had voted

almost solidly against the emergency tariff measure.

"In 1812, during James Madison's (a Democratic) administration when times were not as hard as at present, the United States Government placed an embargo on all imports for eighteen months," declared Mr. Hudspeth. In commenting on the wool market he declared that there had been an advance in the price of wool since the enactment of the emergency tariff and that he believed that the bottom had been hit and that we were on the upward bound.

Congressman Hudspeth "sprang a new one" on many of his hearers when he declared that 2,000,000 pounds of Chinese hair had been imported into the United States during the past year. He stated that R. E. Taylor, president of the National Mohair Growers' Association, informed him that the Chinese hair comes into direct competition with mohair. Congressman Hudspeth urged the wool and mohair growers to give their support to the French-Capper bill. Mr. Hudspeth stated that he was a friend of labor but that wages must come down. He insisted on a reduction of freight rates also. He stated that it costs him \$6.00 to ship a cow to market now, while a few years ago the cost was around \$2.00 per head. In discussion on stock paper he stated that loans on "she stock" are the safest. He paid a high tribute to Governor Harding of the Federal Reserve System. He assured the stockmen that Mr. Harding, who is a livestock raiser himself, has the interests of the industry at heart.

Other prominent speakers before the convention were: Col. P. L. Downs of Temple and Judge Charles Rogan of Austin. Col. Downs cited the great need for extending Federal aid to the producer and declared that instead of America's financing Europe, our home industries should first be protected. Judge Rogan presented some interesting information with reference to the wool industry and the low prices paid for sheep and wool products. He stated that the ultimate consumer of wool pays the income tax of all those that

handle wool from the scoured product until it has been disposed of by the retailers. "This," he said, "is partly responsible for the high cost of different articles of clothing today." Judge Rogan advocated as a remedy for the present financial situation (1) a uniform reduction of wages in all industries, (2) reasonable freight rates and (3) an import duty on raw materials.

James Allen, a former president of the Texas Cattle Raisers' Association, was the principal speaker at the final session of the convention, his subject being "Reminiscences of a Western Herdsman."

An old time Texas ranchman, Mr. A. J. Knollin, now head of the Wool Growers' Commission Company, Chicago, Illinois, was a visitor at the convention and sale and briefly addressed the convention regarding the origin of the Wool Growers' Commission Company. He stated that the new company hopes to eliminate the present-day competitive methods of marketing livestock. He stated that the Wool Growers' Commission Company has received the endorsement of the sheepmen in a number of the leading Western states.

Among the important resolutions adopted by the convention were:

(1) A resolution urging in schedule "K" of the new permanent tariff bill a wool duty of 40 cents per pound on clean wool.

(2) A resolution approving and endorsing the French "Truth in Fabric" Bill.

(3) A resolution demanding a readjustment of livestock shipping freight rates and urging co-operative action on the part of the National Wool Growers Association and the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers' Association.

(4) A resolution endorsing the livestock investigations underway at Substation No. 14, Texas Experiment Station.

(5) A resolution urging the support of the wool and mohair scouring plant maintained at the Texas A. & M. College for the purpose of ascertaining shrinkage on samples of wool and

mohair for wool and mohair growers.

(6) A resolution endorsing the work of the Bureau of Biological Survey.

(7) A resolution urging a campaign for the removal of prejudice against the consumption of goat meat.

(8) A resolution empowering the Executive Committee of the Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association of Texas to affiliate with the National Wool Growers Association.

(9) A resolution urging the reduction in freight rates charged for double deck shipments.

(10) A resolution with reference to the establishment of woollen and mohair mills in west Texas and authorizing the president of the association to appoint a committee to investigate the feasibility of the plan and urging them to report back to the Executive Committee.

All of the officers who served during the past year were re-elected.

TEXAS SALE REPORT LOST IN MAILS

The report of the Texas Ram Sale was mailed to the Wool Grower after the sale but failed to arrive when this issue went to press. It will be published in the August number.

IDAHO LAMB FEEDING TEST

Lamb feeding rations under study by the Idaho Experiment Station at Caldwell, Ida., during the past winter included a test of rations made up of alfalfa meal, syrup and barley in comparison with uncut alfalfa barley and silage. The gains made on the first ration cost \$16.10 per hundred pounds, compared with \$7.25 in the other lot. When finished the lambs brought the top price on the Portland market, but lacked over \$2 per head of paying out. This figure includes also the difference in buying and selling prices and shows a lower net loss than was experienced by most feeders during the past winter.

THE CALIFORNIA RAM SALE

The outcome of the California Ram Sale held at University Farm, Davis, on June 16 and 17, by the State Wool Growers Association, was an encouragement to all interested. Prices were more than conservatively moderate but the season's trade was opened and buyers and sellers learned each others' ideas and the levels at which business can be done.

Hampshires were in demand from a large part of the buyers, reflecting, no doubt, the good return obtained for many of the early fat lambs shipped to Eastern markets.

Two days were occupied in the selling, the second day showing the most active demand and stronger prices. Some of the prices were as follows:

9 Hampshire rams consigned by Harold Hopkins, Woodland, California, average	\$70
A total of 40 Hampshires at an average of	\$32
8 Rambouillet rams consigned by Bullard Bros., average	\$35
1 Rambouillet ram consigned by University of California	\$105
76 Rambouillets, average	\$37
83 Shropshires, average	\$25

HOW MANY SHEEP IN THE UNITED STATES?

It is a time honored statement that while "figures don't lie, yet liars do figure." In the present case the Department of Agriculture is accused of a gross error and some alarming statements have been going the rounds as to the alarming decrease in numbers of live stock, as revealed, it is said, by the census figures.

The real census figures are contained in this article but before examining them it is worth while to consider the cause of the numerous and astounding statements published on this topic. In the first place the actual census count is made only once in 10 years. In 1900 the date was June 15, in 1920, the records were taken on January 1. This alone will show that the totals for

such varying dates are by no means comparable. The total number of cattle or sheep in the 1910 census of April 15 would include large numbers of calves and lambs, while on January 1, 1920, very little young stock was included. Fortunately the records as published show the numbers of calves and lambs in both cases so that in the data presented below it is still possible to make a fair comparison of the numbers of breeding stock on hand at the two dates.

The Department of Agriculture, in recognition of the need of more frequent reports of numbers of live stock, many years ago, adopted the plan of making annual estimates. These were naturally published as of January 1. In fact, owing to the manner of preparing the figures they really represented the census dates, and to that extent were in error. This was known to those accustomed to handle such statistics but in many cases reports were taken really to represent actual numbers on January 1. The department's yearly estimates were obtained in this way:

In December, 1910, the several thousand persons reporting from all parts of the country were asked to

estimate, in terms of percentage, the number of each class of animals on hand in each district, as compared to the end of the previous year. An individual reporter would state that the number of sheep was 95 or 100 or 105 per cent of a year ago. These percentage estimates, applying to their respective areas, were summarized to show by what per cent the total number of sheep had increased or decreased. On January 1, 1911, the estimates showed that during the year 1910 the number of sheep had increased slightly over one per cent.

Since the Department of Agriculture's dates of estimates now coincide with the census dates the former's figures for January 1, 1921, and succeeding years should be as useful as it is possible to obtain through careful estimates.

In the table given below there is shown the number of sheep, excluding spring lambs, on April 15, 1910, in the left hand column. The other columns show the totals for January 1, 1920, and the numbers of each class. The third column, "Lambs under one year of age," includes all lambs being carried over and the fall and winter lambs of the Western coast states.

	1910 (Apr. 15) Sheep, not including spring lambs	Total Sheep	1920 (Jan. 1) Lambs under 1 year	Ewes 1 year and over	Rams 1 year and over	Wethers 1 year and over
-8 States:						
Maine, N. H., Vermont, Mass., R. I., Conn., N. Y., Pa.	1,566,000	1,343,570	313,627	907,409	39,391	83,143
-12 States:						
Ohio, Ind., Ill., Mich., Wis., Minn., Ia., Miss., N. D., S. D., Nebr., Kans.	10,050,000	10,013,413	2,871,315	6,565,948	233,579	306,934
-9 States:						
Dela., Md., Colo., Va., W. Va., N. Car. S. Car. Ga., Fla.	1,549,000	1,214,163	182,301	929,248	54,008	44,770
-7 States:						
Ky., Tenn., Ala., Miss., Ark., La., Okla., Texas	3,133,000	4,207,607	902,664	2,685,411	122,298	497,204
—Montana	4,953,000	2,082,919	509,400	1,468,732	32,736	72,051
—Idaho	2,070,000	2,356,270	446,449	1,789,631	53,634	36,756
—Wyoming	4,827,000	1,832,255	379,124	1,331,436	48,758	10,087
—Colorado	1,304,000	1,813,255	844,568	876,416	25,084	13,165
—New Mexico	2,833,000	1,640,475	375,958	1,172,525	28,345	63,647
—Arizona	796,000	881,914	169,224	531,818	37,880	59,411
—Utah	1,670,000	1,691,000	407,622	1,231,341	25,162	27,670
—Nevada	787,000	880,580	209,619	615,322	19,064	36,575
—Washington	293,000	623,779	151,969	438,571	10,573	22,666
—Oregon	1,956,000	2,002,378	551,313	1,302,142	32,941	115,982
—California	1,400,000	2,400,151	616,551	1,616,709	62,920	103,971
United States Total	39,187,000	34,984,524	8,931,705	23,462,689	826,373	1,494,032

The Live Stock Finance Corporation

What influence will the \$50,000,000 pool formed by Chicago and Eastern bankers exert on the Western live stock industry? For a month the financial mountain has been laboring. Bankers have met in conference at Chicago behind closed doors while newspaper writers, always prone to exaggerate, have speculated voluminously on the trend and probable result of their deliberations. These fabricators of the daily news structure have announced with convincing definiteness how this \$50,000,000 fund was to be distributed, while those on whom the task devolved had determined nothing. The result has been dissemination of the same grist of misinformation that went broadcast when the \$22,000,000 pool was formed earlier in the year. Tentatively the new pool is in more or less tangible shape; actually its organizers had not been able to get it out of the incubation stage on July 1, when the underwriting agreement still lacked signatures, directors had not been elected and although announcement had been made that M. L. McClure of Kansas City would administer the fund, his appointment in that capacity also lacked confirmation.

It may be safely assumed, however, that by the time this is in type the corporation will be ready to consider loans and that at least part of the fund will be pulsating in the sluggish veins of the live stock industry. The manner in which the enterprise has been heralded journalistically indicates editorial and reportorial ignorance concerning this industry. To the average financial writer fifty million dollars sounds like a lot of money; compared even with present-day borrowing by the sheepmen of the West alone, it is insignificant; yet some of these writers have portrayed the live stock industry as destined to revel in prosperity a few weeks hence as a result of this pool. That the distribution of \$50,000,000 will exert a tonic influence will be admitted; that it means elimination of current tribulation is absurd.

Part of the fund will go into sheep trade channels; how much nobody knows. Any impression that the managers of the pool will make loans direct to individuals is erroneous; in fact no applications from other than banks and recognized loan concerns will be received. And the paper must be of the gilt-edge type, valuation of the security being on the basis of current prices. The pool managers make no secret of their policy with regard to desperate cases; no life saving will be countenanced. Their purpose is to return the entire fund intact, to the subscribers 30 months hence.

Loans will be on a ten per cent basis, of which two per cent will be held out for defraying expense of administration together with possible losses. The rate looks high, but many a business concern is paying as much for money to tide it over the present crisis. Eight-per-cent bond issues are the rule in the sphere of industrial financing at present and that means ten per cent to the borrower. The feature of the pool programme that means most to the live stock grower is the stated policy of renewing paper for five, six-month periods, thereby eliminating the danger of enforced liquidation with its inevitable sacrifice.

Eastern timidity when the West seeks money is proverbial. All through the "negotiations" over this pool this has been evident. Eastern capital regards the West in much the same spirit as a certain Wyoming cattleman who, as a tenderfoot, saw a trainload of Texas stockers disappear over the horizon on being unloaded at their new habitat.

"It's a cinch I'll never see those cattle again," he said. The Eastern capitalist regards money put into live stock paper in much the same light.

However, it is a certainty, as certainties go in this world, that some of this money will shortly be available for the relief of certain banks and loan companies that are long on sheep paper and short on cash, at a moment when

deposits are dwindling. Even a few millions will check the tide of liquidation, which is still running and will run otherwise. The whole situation calls attention to present inadequate facilities for financing the industry. The fact cannot be concealed that in the condition of flux into which matters commercial and industrial have drifted since the war, bearings have been lost and land marks obliterated, rendering precedent valueless. The sheep raiser and the cattle man have been deprived of the credit essential to the successful conduct of their business and until that credit has been restored "business as usual" will be impossible. Fifty million dollars is merely a sop, a plaster so to speak, to be applied to trade wounds.

So far as the sheep raiser and the live stock grower are concerned, permanent financing is essential. Without the live stock industry the trans-Missouri pastoral region cannot thrive and when it lacks prosperity the whole country suffers. The live stock grower is entitled to the same basis of credit as the merchant and manufacturer. In making loans the element of personal responsibility must be taken into the equation. At present this is done only at the home bank; when the paper goes to the central money markets for rediscount in many cases it is pre-emptorily rejected, a practice that has the logical effect of repressing initiative and stimulating liquidation.

Let us assume that two borrowers approach a local banker for loans of \$5,000 in each instance. One is a town merchant with a stock inventorying \$20,000. He gets his money without haggling; the note goes to the Federal Reserve Bank and is promptly accepted on the theory that the security behind it is liquid. In the case of the live stock grower, a radically different standard is used. His ranch is probably worth as much as the merchant's stock and less subject to deterioration, but owing to its non-liquidity is not considered an asset. He wants money to stock his pasture or buy live stock to convert his hay crop into a marketable

commodity. The banker is dubious, but finally advances the money on the strength of the personal responsibility of the borrower, but when the paper is sent to the Federal Reserve Bank it is thrown out, necessitating liquidation of the security at the end of the six-month period unless the local banker is able to carry the loan and in this crisis this ability is exceptional. Had the Federal Reserve Bank taken into consideration the personal responsibility of the live stock grower, especially when based on his real estate holdings or forest reserve rights, a much better condition would have been created and a condition devoutly to be desired.

It is not contended that Federal Reserve Banks should facilitate loans for the purpose of speculating in live stock, as sharp distinction should be made between the actual producer and the chance-taker. This differentiation could be safely left to the local banker whose endorsement of the paper is essential to the re-discounting process. The primary purpose should be to enable the live stock grower whose financial resources are tied up in land, an opportunity to utilize that capital in the same manner as the merchant and manufacturer is able under present Federal Reserve regulations to utilize the capital tied up in stock, as represented by inventories.

And it should be recognized as a sound principle that the live stock grower is entitled to a loan equal to the full purchase price of the stock required to convert his crops into marketable product on the theory that its value increases every day during the feeding period. This basic principle of live stock production may be suspended during such abnormal periods as the past year, periods of reconstruction when deflation is the order of the day, but such periods occur only at long intervals. Under normal conditions it is reasonable assumption that increase in weight and improvement in condition will more than offset depreciation in value during the period of the loan.

The \$50,000,000 fund, if distributed, will serve a useful purpose at this juncture in preventing much liquidation of live stock that will otherwise be necessary, but the expedient does not strike the fundamental cause of existing troubles. It is merely an application, cutaneously, of salve, whereas constitutional treatment is needed. The remedy is simple: Give the live stock grower credit for his capital investment, enabling him to borrow on it for the purpose of converting roughage, grass and coarse grains into marketable and palatable commodities and such ills as the industry has fallen heir to will speedily disappear.

TEXAS WOOL SALES

Wool sales have been made in this section. Good, long wool sold for 19 to 22 cents per pound and the shorter wools from 16 to 18 cents. Shearing is practically completed at this time, (June 25th). Six to eight cents per head was the price paid for the work this year.

At present the range is in need of rain, but the sheep are still looking good.

H. M. Wendel.

Harper, Texas.

CONDITIONS GOOD IN THE BIG HORN BASIN

The past winter in the Big Horn Basin was very favorable to the sheep industry. The weather for the most part was very mild, the ground being partially bare of snow most of the time, making ideal conditions for wintering sheep on the range.

The winter range was good on the south and east side of the basin, but on the northwest side was so poor that many of the herds were shifted to other ranges.

Lambing is nearly over in this part of the country with reports of good percentages, though some heavy losses were reported during the heavy rains in early May.

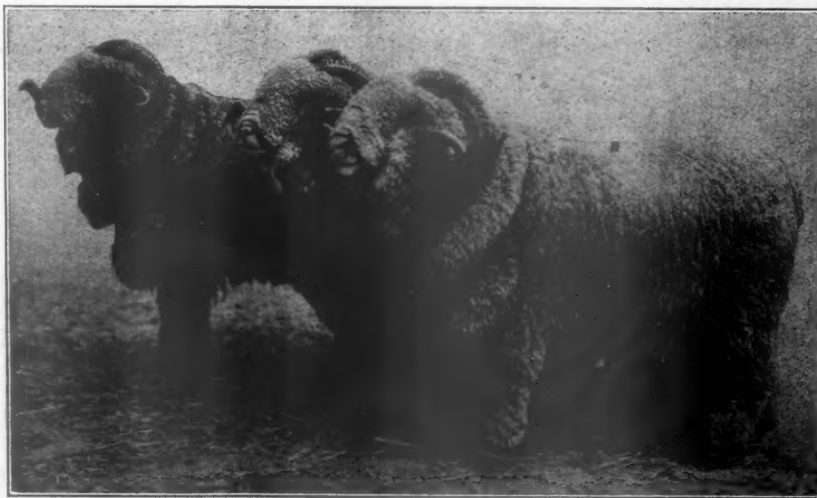
The rains have been general throughout this portion of the country, making the ranges in fine shape, not only for summer pasture, but for winter grazing.

There is less stock on our ranges than for years, due to heavy shipping following the drouth of two years ago.

Shearing is nearly through with, hand shearers being paid 12½¢ and board. Very little wool has been sold, one buyer for a Chicago house offering 15 cents f. o. b. Thermopolis.

Lucerne, Wyo.

Burt Corley.

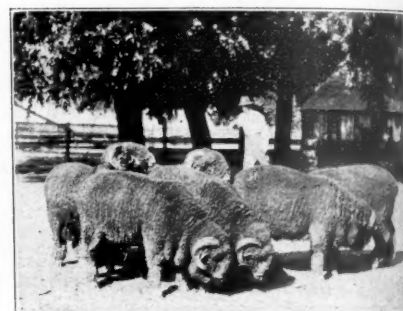


Some of the rugged two-year-old Butterfield Rambouillet Rams entered in the Salt Lake Sale

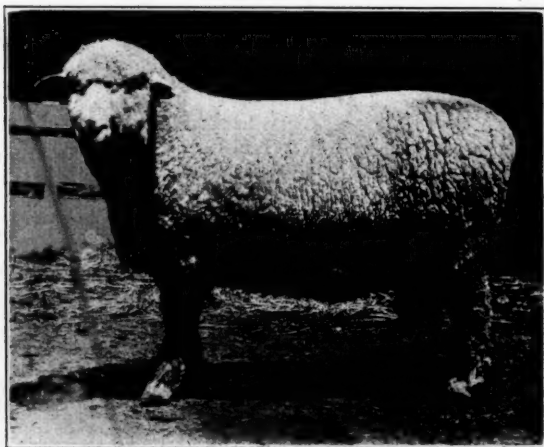
A Few Representatives of the Stock That Will Be Found at the Salt Lake Ram Sale



Some of the Candland Rambouillet Stud Ewes from Mt. Pleasant, Utah.



G. N. Merritt & Sons pure-bred range Rams that will be offered at the Salt Lake Sales



A Corriedale Stud Ram from King Bros., Laramie, Wyo.



Some of H. L. Finch's big-boned yearling Hampshire Rams.



Rambouillet Range Rams from the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station at Dubois, Idaho

SAVE MONEY—ATTEND THE AUCTION RAM SALE SALT LAKE AUGUST 29, 30, 31, 1921

The best lot of Range and Stud Rams ever offered. Never in the history of sheep raising was so much ram value to be obtained for a dollar. The buyers make the prices.

The following consignments will be sold:

RAMBOUILLETS

Butterfield Live Stock Co., Weiser, Idaho
100 Range Rams
15 Stud Rams
50 Stud Ewes

Bureau of Animal Industry, Dubois, Idaho
25 Range Rams
3 Stud Rams

Bullard Bros., Woodland, California
50 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams

W. D. Candland, Mt. Pleasant, Utah
50 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams
14 Stud Ewes

Clark & Co., Castleford, Idaho
5 Stud Rams

C. H. Craig, Lowen, Washington
25 Range Rams
5 Stud Rams

Cunningham Sheep Co., Pendleton, Oregon
100 Range Rams

John Curran, Hagerman, Idaho
25 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams

Day Farms Co., Parowan, Utah
50 Range Rams
5 Stud Rams

E. R. Hobbs, Castleford, Idaho
5 Stud Rams

Gillett Sheep Co., Castleford, Idaho
25 Range Rams
3 Stud Rams
25 Stud Ewes

F. S. King Bros. Co., Laramie, Wyoming
10 Range Rams
15 Stud Rams
20 Stud Ewes

A. J. Knollin, Pocatello, Idaho
50 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams

J. K. Madsen, Mt. Pleasant, Utah
92 Range Rams
15 Stud Rams
3 Stud Ewes

J. E. Magleby, Monroe, Utah
25 Range Rams

J. M. Moran, Starbuck, Washington
35 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams
15 Stud Ewes

G. N. Merritt & Son, Woodland, California
20 Range Rams

L. B. Nielson, Ephraim, Utah
50 Range Rams
2 Stud Rams

Chas. Olsen, Ephraim, Utah
5 Stud Rams

W. W. Pendleton & Son, Parowan, Utah
25 Range Rams
8 Stud Rams
10 Stud Ewes

Queally Sheep Co., Cokeville, Wyoming
50 Range Rams
15 Stud Rams
25 Stud Ewes

Rigby Ranch Co., Castle Rock, Utah
100 Range Rams
15 Stud Rams

John H. Seely's Sons, Mt. Pleasant, Utah
50 Range Rams
15 Stud Rams
10 Stud Ewes

University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois
3 Stud Rams

HAMPSHIRE

Butterfield Live Stock Co., Weiser, Idaho
100 Range Rams
15 Stud Rams
50 Stud Ewes

J. J. Craner, Corinne, Utah
50 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams

H. L. Finch, Soda Springs, Idaho
75 Range Rams
5 Stud Rams

Howland & Pfost, Cambridge, Idaho
100 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams
50 Stud Ewes

Knollin-Hansen Co., Soda Springs, Idaho
75 Range Rams
11 Stud Rams

Laidlaw & Brockie, Muldoon, Idaho
50 Range Rams

J. Nebeker & Son, Laketown, Utah
50 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams

Selway & Gardiner, Anaconda, Montana
105 Range Rams
10 Stud Rams
25 Stud Ewes

94 3/4

COTSWOLDS

A. J. Knollin, Pocatello, Idaho
25 Range Rams
5 Stud Rams

J. E. Magleby & Son, Monroe, Utah
25 Range Rams
5 Stud Rams

LINCOLNS

Howland & Pfost, Cambridge, Idaho
25 Range Rams
5 Stud Rams

A. J. Knollin, Pocatello, Idaho
25 Range Rams
5 Stud Rams

S. W. McClure
3 Stud Rams

ROMNEYS

Knollin-Hansen Co., Soda Springs, Idaho
15 Stud Rams

CORRIEDALES

Bureau of Animal Industry, Dubois, Idaho
15 Rams
5 Stud Rams

F. S. King Bros. Co., Laramie, Wyoming
10 Range Rams

COLUMBIAS

Bureau of Animal Industry, Dubois, Idaho
3 Stud Rams

PANAMAS

Laidlaw & Brockie, Muldoon, Idaho
50 Range Rams

CROSS-BREDS

Butterfield Live Stock Co., Weiser, Idaho
50 Range Rams

Cunningham Sheep Co., Pendleton, Oregon
100 Range Rams

John Curran, Hagerman, Idaho
75 Range Rams

Ellenwood & Ramsay, Red Bluff, California
20 Range Rams

Catalog ready August 10. Address National Wool Growers Association.

NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

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The Live Stock Finance Corporation

The middle of the year found the sheepmen still doing business under conditions that a few months ago seemed unendurable. The weather and feed conditions have been a saving factor. Also, the forbearance of the financial institutions has allowed matters to go along in the hopes of a marked and permanent improvement. Most financiers recognize the safety of allowing sufficient time for the flocks to grow out their indebtedness, but some of them must be governed by the attitude of other institutions by which the paper has been discounted. Much is hoped from the new Live Stock Finance Corporation, capitalized at \$50,000,000 to provide for the carrying of live stock paper for periods up to 30 months. This corporation was called into being at the instance of the Secretary of the Treasury and other government officials and was said to be more effective and quicker in action than any plan that could be provided by acts of Congress. The delay that has already occurred is most unfortunate, but it is confidently expected that in the very near future, the corporation will be doing business in a very helpful fashion.

The Permanent Tariff

Considerable disappointment was expressed at the low rate of wool duty recommended in the bill drafted by the Ways and Means Committee. At the last hour the justice of the scoured content plan was recognized, but the duty to be levied on that basis was placed at 25 cents. At a caucus of the House Republicans held on July 6, it was agreed to make no attempt to increase the duty in that body, but to leave the matter to the Senate. The House has agreed to vote on the bill on July 21, which should mean that the matter will be before the Senate and open for hearings early in August.

A still more disappointing feature of the bill was the proviso attached, that in no case should the duty collected

exceed 35 per cent of the value of the wool. This was apparently a last-moment concession to the importers and some manufacturers who have been very loud in their protest against the effect of a 25-cent duty upon the present cheap wools of the coarser grades. It does not seem possible that the committee can be supported in its plan of confusing specific and ad valorem duties. This matter, which is fully discussed in the first article of this issue, will be vigorously prosecuted by the National Wool Growers Association before the Senate committee.

Concern has been expressed by some wool growers over the danger of an interval occurring between the expiration of the Emergency Tariff and the effectiveness of the permanent bill. While it is true that the Emergency Bill was given a life of only six months, yet there is full assurance that no rush of free imports will be allowed to take place. The lower house refused to bind itself to a plan of making the recommended duties effective upon the date of their introduction. This, however, was because the amount of duties proposed was not known at the time the request was made. After the committee's recommendations have been discussed fully, there will be no doubt of agreement to the ad interim clause in case such should be necessary.

Freight Rates

The first of July found the railway employees still at work despite announcement of intention to refuse the 12 per cent wage cut made effective for a large part of the less skillful railway workmen. It had been confidently expected that a downward revision of rates would be announced soon after the wage case was disposed of. Such revision should be forthcoming in the very near future. A few minor concessions have been made, but the public in general and the stockmen especially will continue to demand an adjustment of the transportation charges to a point that will be in line

with the value of the products being shipped.

The final hearing on live stock rates will take place before the Interstate Commerce Commission at Washington on July 15.

The Markets

There has been considerable activity in wool at continued low figures. On another page our Boston correspondent claims that some of the prices paid in the range territory have been above the line of the Eastern markets. If such is true, it would seem to indicate a strong faith on the part of the dealers in a higher market later in the year. Sales made through financial pressure, both at the markets and in the growing sections, have apparently been sufficient to prevent values from advancing. The mills continue to report a high percentage of activity, though their purchases of materials are said to be on a hand-to-mouth basis. The fear of cancellations of orders placed for goods is growing less and with this improvement in the manufacturing line and the check upon imports, it would seem to be only a matter of a few months until values are on a new plane.

The lamb market opened up auspiciously for the earlier shipments of good killing lambs. A few days of 13-cent tops were followed by a drop attributed to refusal of Eastern trade to buy carcasses on that level. The Eastern retailer apparently has a clearly defined limit as to what he will pay for carcasses. The price which he will pay must, to all appearances, be kept down to a point that will give him his usual profit when making sales at prices which have been current for sometime and which are about all the public will pay. Those in the trade expect that after the overload of high quality stuff, the market should become established on a broader and more stable basis for the heavier trade of the later season. Practically all the stuff shipped has been going to slaughter and there can be no considerable accumulation in farming sections to go into the market during the range runs.

Fabric and Packer Legislation

The Haugen bill, referred to in the June Wool Grower, was substituted for the Norris bill in the final vote in the Senate. As accepted by the upper body the bill was somewhat changed from its previous form and is still before the conferees of the two houses.

The Senate committee hearings on the French-Capper Truth-in-Fabric Bill commenced on June 1. The strongest possible endorsements of the bill were made by the representatives of the American Farm Bureau Federation, the National Grange, the Consumers' League and wool growers' organizations. The hearings were suspended on June 7 to reopen on July 7, when the opponents to the bill will appear. Wyoming representatives who appeared at the hearings report that there is a practical certainty that the measure will be approved by the Senate committee.

FINANCIAL LEGISLATION

A chain can be no stronger than its weakest link. The weak link in the chain of agricultural production and marketing is the method of financing. The Wool Grower, in co-operation with the organs and representatives of other agricultural bodies, will continue to discuss and agitate this matter until a change is made.

It is foolish to say that all will be well after the present storm has cleared. When the stress came the weak spot was revealed. If those affected have not strengthened that point in readiness for the next strain that will surely come, they will have only themselves to blame. So long as borrowed working capital invested in breeding stock is subject to call in six months, just that long will meat and wool production be a precarious business. The position of the producers will be entirely dependent upon the bankers. Today the bankers, at great cost and effort, are supporting their clients but they are handicapped by the six-months' limitation on live-stock paper, which results from the fact that the Federal Reserve standards for redis-

counting are necessarily the standards of all of our financial institutions.

There is also the question of financing the orderly marketing of all agricultural products. This is not a new question but its seriousness has become very striking through the attempts of farmers and stock raisers to improve their business methods in keeping with the trend of the times.

Some of those who appreciate the nation's interest in a progressive and business-like agriculture are inclined to feel that we are making too much of the post-war conditions and seeking changes that are not really needed. The opinions of a witness so unbiased and so competent as Mr. Bernard M. Baruch will be carefully considered. The following excerpts are fairly selected from Mr. Baruch's discussion of "The Farmers' Problems" in the Atlantic Monthly for July:

"It will not do to take a narrow view of the rural discontent, or to appraise it from the standpoint of yesterday. This is peculiarly an age of flux and change and new deals. Because a thing always has been so no longer means that it is righteous, or always shall be so. * * * Prudent and orderly adjustment of production and distribution in accordance with consumption is recognized as wise management in every business but that of farming. Yet, I venture to say, there is no other industry in which it is so important to the public—to the city-dweller—that production should be sure, steady, and increasing, and that distribution should be in proportion to the need. The unorganized farmers naturally act blindly and impulsively and, in consequence, surfeit and dearth, accompanied by disconcerting price-variations, harass the consumers. * * * The farmers are not entitled to special privileges; but are they not right in demanding that they be placed on an equal footing with the buyers of their products and with other industries? * * *

"Farm products are generally marketed at a time when there is a congestion of both transportation and finance—when cars and money are scarce. The outcome, in many instances, is that the farmers not only sell under pressure, and therefore at a disadvantage, but are compelled to take further reductions in net returns, in order to meet the charges for the services of storing, transporting, financing, and ultimate marketing—which charges, they claim, are often excessive, bear heavily on both consumer and producer, and are under the control of those performing the services. It is true that they are relieved of the risks of a changing market by selling at once; but they are quite willing to take the unfavorable chance, if the favorable one also is theirs and they can retain for themselves a part of the service charges that are uniform, in good years and bad, with high prices and low. * * *

"It is complained that, whereas the law restricts Federal Reserve banks to three

months' time for commercial paper, the farmer is allowed six months on his notes. This is not a special privilege, but merely such a recognition of business conditions as makes it possible for country banks to do business with country people. The crop-farmer has only one turn-over a year, while the merchant and manufacturer have many. Incidentally, I note that the Federal Reserve Board has just authorized the Federal Reserve banks to discount export paper for a period of six months, to conform to the nature of the business.

"The grain, cotton, and tobacco farmers, and the producers of hides and wool, because of their numbers and the vastness of their regions and for other reasons, have found integration a more difficult task; though there are now some thousands of farmers' co-operative elevators, warehouses, creameries, and other enterprises of one sort and another, with a turn-over of a billion dollars a year. They are giving the farmers business experience and training, and, so far as they go, they meet the need of honest weighing and fair grading; but they do not meet the requirements of rationally adjusted marketing in any large and fundamental way. * * *

"In conclusion, it seems to me that the farmers are chiefly striving for a generally beneficial integration of their business, of the same kind and character that other business enjoys. If it should be found, on examination, that the attainment of this end requires methods different from those which other activities have followed for the same purpose, should we not sympathetically consider the plea for the right to co-operate, if only from our own enlightened self-interest, in obtaining an abundant and steady flow of farm products?"

It is evident that our present banking system and regulations do not meet the needs of agriculture. In the case of live stock, this is evidenced by the large volume of business done by the loaning companies. No other industry is forced to go beyond the banking system for normal financial service. It may be that the difficulty is partly with business methods of the stock growers. Such will be remedied as fast as is possible, but we cannot change the fact that a cow must carry a calf for nine months and a lamb must still have five months between the beginning of production and the time of birth. Nor can these animals be liquidated at birth. Live stock capital cannot be turned over in six months as can a stock of goods or the material used in a factory. As Mr. Baruch points out, it is not class legislation to give a farmer access to capital for a period to make a turn-over. If there is any class legislation to be spoken of, it was made when other business was given necessary loan periods and

agriculture excluded in the framing of the Federal Reserve Act.

Most bankers say that six months is the limit on paper that is consistent with sound banking practice. If this is an unalterable fact, then the Wool Grower will need to join those who advocate a new set of financial institutions designed to serve agricultural needs. We hope a less radical and less expensive remedy will be found. Our present duty is to study this question, at home and in meetings, to go over it with our bankers and know both sides, and to keep in touch with all the other efforts being made along this line. There will be strong and honest opposition. Education as well as agitation will be needed. The ideas of the Secretary of the Treasury upon the creation of a new system for financing agriculture are not known, but his objection to the eligibility for discount of paper drawn for more than six months has been clearly stated in a recent communication to the chairman of the House Committee on Banking and Currency. The statement was:

"Notwithstanding newspaper reports, the treasury has made no recommendation to the effect that the Federal Reserve Act should be amended in order to extend the discount limit on agricultural paper beyond six months. There is nothing in the law or the policies of the Federal Reserve Board even now to prevent the rediscount of the renewal of a note in cases where, under extraordinary circumstances, like those prevailing, it is necessary to carry the paper for a longer time. The Federal Reserve Board and Federal Reserve banks located in the agricultural and live stock districts are fully alive to the necessities of the present situation and I think are prepared to pursue a helpful policy. On my initiative, conferences have also been held recently between representatives of the Federal Reserve Board and the Federal Reserve banks, commercial bankers from the financial centers and the agricultural and live stock districts, and representatives of the so-called agricultural bloc of Senators. Copies of the press statements of June 10th and June 11th describing these conferences and the conference which is to be held at Chicago on June 15th are enclosed for your information. I am hopeful that with the co-operation of all concerned it will be possible to provide the necessary credit facilities without any new legislation."

Unfortunately there has been great delay in completing the emergency organization recommended by the Treasury. The assurance of \$50,000,000 for the live stock business has had a very soothing effect upon Congress and the

public, but thirty days have passed and the corporation has not started to function. Following the preliminary meetings it was announced that provision would be made to carry live stock paper through a period of thirty months. Thirty-two months after the close of war, it is sought to provide such a service. It ought to be available at all times.

CONDITIONS IN IDAHO

Sheep are doing well in Idaho and lambs are all fat. It now looks as if there would be very few feeder lambs produced in Idaho this year. There has been some talk about feeder lambs being bought for five cents on the range this fall. My prediction is that seven cents will be about the bottom. One hears a lot about cheap lambs, but when you investigate, you fail to find them.

While the percentage of lambs raised this year is very large in the aggregate, the total number is away below the 1919 supply, because we have about 40 per cent fewer ewes than we had then. Wool growers in other states need not fear the deluge of Idaho lambs on the market this year. Our lambs are fat, they started to move early, and there are not many of them. Most of them will be out of the way in the next four weeks.

There is nothing doing in Idaho wool—most of it is being shipped to Portland for storage until things open up. As I predicted in the last issue, the Ways and Means Committee of the House agreed to put the wool duty on the scoured basis. As a member of the committee wrote me, "there was never any doubt that the committee would do this." No member of Congress could afford to do otherwise. The Ways and Means Committee finally put the matter up to the Tariff Commission as to the kind of duty and the rate to be applied. Wool growers should not worry about this tariff bill. My prediction is we will have the best tariff bill ever passed by Congress.

Nampa, Idaho. S. W. McClure.

With the Wool Trade

THE COURSE OF THE WOOL TRADE

The events of the past months show that the wool trade has become readjusted to a low level of values. Prices now obtaining show that the deflation has gone much farther than was necessary to counteract any inflation that might properly have been charged to the business prior to May, 1920.

The distress of growers and also of some dealers appears to have maintained movement at bargain prices. In times of dullness dealers have been wont to say that the way to revive business is to move merchandise at whatever prices can be obtained. If there is any virtue in the idea some compensation should be forthcoming soon.

Wools of the range territory have been moving in considerable bulk. There has been a large list of sales at low values running from 12 to 20 cents depending upon the wool and upon the position of the seller. The latter figure has recently been refused for some Montana clips. A good many of the purchases have been made with a view to adjusting overdrafts on last year's consignments. While some new connections were made early in the season at good advances, recent consignments have chiefly been on a basis around 12 cents. A good many clips are being held at home in the hopes of a more favorable development.

Some Idaho wools have been sent to Portland for storage there and for later shipment through the canal. A considerable quantity has already gone forward by the water route; 150 cars are reported as having gone through the San Pedro port and a single shipping company has handled one and a half million pounds in San Francisco and Portland.

A significant innovation has been made in the range grading of two million pounds of wool by Mr. Alexander Livingston, Jr. The grading contracts were made with the wool owners without engagements affecting the selling.

Several large clips were graded on Boston standards at Rock Springs and other western Wyoming points. A part of the finer grades from the finer clips were sold by sample to the American Wool Company.

Unsettled conditions have interfered with the expected activity of pooling arrangements offered in the range states. The Utah Farm Bureau has announced that the plan offered by that body in conjunction with the Utah Wool Growers Association was taken advantage of to the extent of 500,000 pounds. The Montana season is not sufficiently advanced to show the attitude of the growers toward the system. In the farm states more than the usual amount of wools have been taken into the co-operative organizations. When it is possible to effect a clean-up on the clips of the last two seasons and the financial entanglements surrounding, then it will be possible to take a fair estimate of the willingness of the growers to attempt a real improvement in marketing. The problem, however, is largely one of finance and the present is not an opportune time for financial innovations.

BOSTON WOOL MARKET

By Henry A. Kidder.

The wool trade has been struggling under all sorts of difficulties for over a year, the long-drawn fight over the Emergency Tariff Bill, and now that promised over the permanent bill, supplementary to an extended discussion in committee, have kept everybody on edge, and every section of the trade uncertain as to the future. Therefore it is but natural that relief through final action should be earnestly desired.

The end of June finds most of the buying for the current heavyweight season finished, though occasional small lots are still being taken. The mills are fairly busy; are said to have had a good season, and apparently the fear of ruinous cancellations, such as spoiled last year's season, has sub-

sided in large measure. Yet conditions are such that manufacturers still have the whip hand. They are able to buy large blocks of good wool of last year's shearing at practically their own prices.

Time and again clearing sales have been made by owners, or by banks and financial interests, and a sigh of relief would go around the trade. Yet later other "distress" lots have come to light and the weary round must be gone all over again. Thus it happens that while buyers are operating with some freedom in the West, especially for the better clips, they are paying as much or more than similar wools are selling for in this market. The keynote of the situation seems to be the scarcity for fine staple Territory wool. Such wool is really in short supply, which in a measure explains recent activity in Texas, in Oregon, and in Montana.

Prices on New Wools

Reports here indicate that 22 cents has been the top price paid thus far this season, and this for only one Montana clip. Good wools have been taken by Eastern buyers with some freedom at 15 to 20 cents. In Montana, 21 to 21½ cents has been paid for choicest clips, and in other sections occasional clips have gone over the 20-cent mark. Dealers say that they have been endeavoring to secure the best wools, and avoid as far as possible less desirable clips. Somebody must handle the "stickers," and there is no lack of such wools. Therefore, it is not unusual to hear a dealer say that his concern is getting altogether too many of these undesirable clips on consignment, clips that he would not think of buying in the present state of the market.

Recent purchases for Boston account have been made in Texas at better prices hitherto quoted. Several sales have been held at San Angelo and large purchases have been made at prices that show a clean landed cost 60 to 65 cents for average wools and up to 70 cents for choice twelve-months' clips. For eight-months' clips a clean landed cost of 50 to 55 cents is indicated. Buying has also been fairly active in Oregon, public sales

being held at Pilot Rock, Condon, Shaniko and other points. At the Shaniko sale, June 21, grease prices were 15 to 20¼ cents, and the clean cost landed Boston, 60 to 68 cents. Further advances are likely now that the Montana season is in full swing. A clean landed cost of about 70 cents for the best staple clips seems clearly to be established.

Recent sales of original bag wools, Texas ten to twelve-months' wools especially, have been made here at 70 to 75 cents, while the best eight-months' wools have sold at 58 to 60 cents. Some of the houses that have been actively buying in that state of late claim to turning the new wool over as rapidly as possible, whenever a buyer is willing to pay a reasonable profit. Some of this activity in Texas wools is undoubtedly due to the fact that they are arriving freely. For the same reason recent sales of Arizona wools have been made at 60 to 65 cents clean, the wools being of good character, and on the spot available for prompt delivery.

Much use is to be made this year of the steamship lines bringing wool from the Pacific Coast to Boston. One leading house is planning to have at least 10,000 bags come that way, and others are making similar plans. About 1,500,000 pounds, or over 4,000 bags, have already come forward to various houses. Confirmation of the freight figures published in the May Wool Grower have been secured from the shipping manager of one of the big houses, who says that a saving of 60 to 80 cents per 100 pounds is being made by shipping via the Panama Canal. From such typical points as Jericho, Utah, and Boise, Idaho, the saving is just about 75 cents per 100 pounds.

Three-Eighths-Blood Wools More Popular

Trading in the Boston market for the month has been largely anticipatory of the coming lightweight season, and to that extent of a speculative nature. Yet this demand is to cover actual needs later, if not now, and manufacturers feel that there is little

of the speculative element in buying good wools at the current bargain prices. The outstanding feature of the situation is the sharp line that is being drawn between the three-eighths-bloods and the quarter-blood grades. While the former is selling freely, the latter is very quiet and low quarter-blood and braid wools are absolutely neglected.

It is evident that the mills are preparing to use three-eighths-bloods freely in the new lightweights, to help carry shorter and fine wools. A month ago it was stated that there was little likelihood of a general opening of the new lines before September, but latest information is that the American Woolen Company and other big concerns are preparing to open at least a part of their new lightweight lines by the middle of July. This is supposed to be due to the fact that the heavyweight season turned out rather better than was expected, and may indicate that all danger of serious cancellations is over.

Running over the sales of domestic wools in the Boston market in the order of their completion it is noted that early in the month fine and fine-medium clothing and French combing wool sold at 65 to 70 cents, while half-blood staple sold at the same time at 70 to 75 cents clean. A little later some distress sales of fine and fine-medium short clothing wool were made at 55 to 58 cents and up to 60 cents, and three-eighths-blood staple Territory brought 50 to 51 cents clean, and a little choice wool up to 54 cents.

Offerings of original Montana were made about the middle of the month at 27 cents in the grease, or about 70 cents clean. Good wools of the same description were said to be available at 22½ to 24 cents, or about 65 cents clean. At this time also Texas wools sold at 70 cents clean for twelve-months' and 55 cents for eight-months'. Still later the transfer of 200,000 pounds of fine and fine-medium clothing and French combing wool was reported at 65 to 66 cents, three-eighths-blood staple selling at 50 to 52 cents, and Texas twelve-months' at 70

to 75 cents clean. The very latest sales of Territories were previously indicated. These are only typical sales, as many dealers are reticent about publishing the facts regarding their business.

Ohio Prices

Transfers of Ohio and other fleece wools have been moderate, the most notable transaction of the month, being the sale of a large block of Ohio three-eighths-blood, said to have been at 27½ cents. At the same time shrewd buyers were claiming to be able to buy the same grade at 26 cents. During the month also, Ohio fine unwashed Delaine is reported to have been sold at 36 cents, a new low figure for "since-the-war" transactions. Thirty cents has also been accepted for Ohio half-bloods. It is difficult to get definite information about what is going on in the Ohio primary markets, but apparently Boston dealers are getting a little wool all the time, though the growers are pretty stiff.

The Government Sale

The government has held another wool auction since the last report, selling over 72 per cent of the 5,000,000 pounds offered. Owing to the deterioration of the government holdings and the consequent moth condition of some of the lots, everything was offered "as is." This was regarded as a mistake by the trade, but it did not prevent carpet mills and others from buying freely. No further sales have yet been announced.

Increased confidence abroad is shown by the fact that 175,000 bales are to be offered in London during July, and a similar volume at the various Australian markets during the same month. Prices have stiffened materially in London and the Colonies. France and Japan were the heaviest buyers at the close of the June sales at Sydney. Americans are out of the market everywhere, as a result of the embargo established by the Emergency Tariff Bill, and the uncertainty as to rates under the permanent act. Arrivals of foreign wool for the month have been small, and but for the ar-

rival of two belated cargoes from South Africa would have been of negligible volume.

Germany is forging to the front again in South America, though England, France and Belgium are also competing. Shipments to Hamburg from Argentine for the season to the end of May were 42,000 bales, compared with 19,000 bales for the same period a year ago.

Current prices in the Boston market July 1 are about as follows:

Territory Wools (scoured basis):	
Fine Staple	80@85c
Fine and Fine-Medium Cloth-	
ing and French Combing.....	60@70c
Half-blood Staple	65@75c
Three-eighths-blood Staple.....	50@52c
Quarter-blood Staple	40c
Texas, 12-months	65@75c
Texas, 8 months'	55@58c

STOCKS OF WOOL

The American stocks of wool held on March 31, according to the Bureau of Markets' report of June 4, amounted to 520 million pounds. Of this the United States Government has 51 million pounds and the British Government less than one million. Forty million pounds of tops and noils were reported.

Of the total of grease, scoured and pulled wool, 208,832,000 pounds were home grown and 270,601,000 pounds imported.

The same Bureau reports the 1920 consumption in the United States as having been 580 million pounds. If the above figures are correct the March stocks plus the 1921 clip would amount to only 220 million pounds above requirements if the 1921 consumption is equal to that of 1920, which seems likely to be the case.

The Department of Commerce reports April wool imports amounting to 65 million pounds and for ten months since July 1, 1920, a total of 297,473,000 pounds

In May, 14,745,000 pounds were received and the total for the eleven months was 312,284,000 pounds as compared to 406,499,000 during the eleven months ending May, 1920.

THE TRI-STATE WOOL POOL

Following a call for a special meeting of the members of the Tri-State Wool Growers Association, which later was made to include all wool growers of the Belle Fourche Valley and adjacent trade territory, as well as the members of all banking institutions of the district, an enthusiastic meeting was held in the Legion Building in Belle Fourche, South Dakota, on June 11 to consider and discuss various methods of handling the 1921 wool clip of the district.

On calling the meeting to order, the chairman briefly outlined the situation and stated what the meeting had been called for, following this with a request to the representatives of buying concerns present to submit any propositions which they might see fit.

This was done by Mr. M. E. Haffner, representing Koshland & Co., Max Schuft, representing the Chicago Wool Company, and T. M. Pettigrew, representing Jeremiah Williams & Company, all of whom stated that the concerns they represented were in line for both purchases and consignments, at prices from 10 to 18 cents per pound and advances of from 10 to 14 cents.

It remained for George W. Boynton, representing the Boynton Wool Scouring Company of Chicago, Illinois, to make a proposition which seemed to appeal more directly to those present than any other submitted. His offer was to handle the wools of the entire territory as a "pool," stating that if this could be brought about his concern would make this the principal business of the season, withdrawing from the buying field and refusing other consignments with the exception of those of a very few of their old customers scattered through various parts of the country.

In connection with this proposition

Mr. Boynton submitted a contract form providing for an advance of 12 cents per pound, the wools to be handled according to the best judgment of the Boynton Wool Scouring Company, but reserving to the growers the right to withdraw and sell their clips provided the price is 20 cents per pound or over.

After considerable discussion of the proposition the Boynton plan was accepted by a large number of those present and approximately half a million pounds of wool was at once pledged. This will be increased to at least a million pounds as soon as the plan becomes known to those unable to be present.

In the discussion of the methods of handling, Mr. Boynton stated that they would grade the wool according to condition as well as staple and quality, attempting to make sizeable lots of each that would interest manufacturers and gave it as his belief that this would result advantageously to the grower, placing him in a much better position to realize full value for his clip than to have it sold in the original mixed condition.

The Boynton Company has operated quite extensively in the Belle Fourche territory for a number of years, both as buyers and solicitors of consignments, are thoroughly familiar with the wools of the district and, everything considered, are probably in a better position to handle the pooled wools successfully than any other house in the business.

This pool, when completed, will probably be the largest ever formed in this section of the United States and the outcome will be looked forward to with much interest by others than the growers directly concerned.

If the results are as satisfactory as some believe they will be, it would not be surprising if the pooling of the district would become a fixture.

F. R. Cock.

President, Tri-State Wool Growers Ass'n.

Belle Fourche, S. D.



Mr. Matt Staff, newly elected president of the National Wool Warehouse and Storage Company.

At a recent meeting of the directors of the National Wool Warehouse & Storage Company at Chicago, Mr. Matt staff was elected as president to succeed John D. Holliday. Mr. Holliday will hereafter devote his time to the warehouse and selling work of the company.

Mr. Staff has been with the warehouse company during the past year and a half and has shown high ability in handling the business of wool growers through most difficult times. Prior to going to Chicago Mr. Staff had lived in Montana since 1889 and was for many years manager of the Lewis Penwell Company ranches, including 200,000 sheep.

CHICAGO WOOL SALES

Recent sales of 1920 wool effected in Chicago include:

Idaho Fine (Clothing) Soda Springs at	22c
Montana (Original Bags) 24,000 lbs. at	24c
Idaho half-blood (Soda Springs) at	22c
Wyoming quarter-blood at	14c
South Dakota (Original Bags) at	23c
Iowa half-blood staple (50,000 lbs.) at	27c
Iowa half-blood staple (40,000 lbs.) at	21c

WOOL MOVEMENT IN WYOMING

Lambing is done, shearing is nearly finished, and grass is great. Plenty of rain, especially during the first half of June, has made grass, and there is feed for both summer and next winter. The weather has been seasonable and unusually favorable for growth of all vegetation. The first week of the month was extremely wet and the last week unusually hot. But grass, lambs, and wool are growing, as well as the dry farmer's wheat and rye. Shearing in most parts of the state is finished; in this section there are still several bands waiting the blades. Rains in the forepart of the month delayed shearing while some crews that insisted on 12½ cents and board made way for the men who were willing to work for wages more in keeping with present wool prices. In this county the prevailing price has been ten cents and a dollar a day for board, the sheepman furnishing free board on rainy days and moving. The sheepmen stood together and once more demonstrated that in union there is strength.

Wool has come off in good condition and is generally weighing well; staple is bright, good length, and unusually strong. A few sections report some dirt. Movement of wools is slow. In the Casper country and west early wools were consigned; late shorn wools are to date generally still at shearing shed or in the warehouse. A few clips are reported sold at 15 to 16½ cents, a few have been consigned; but generally the situation is considerable of a deadlock. It is reported that the clip of the Swan Land & Cattle Company at Chugwater has been sold to a Boston house at 18½ cents, while the same house secured on consignment the Warren clip at Cheyenne. Most of the wools in the Big Horn Basin are reported sent on consignment to the houses that had them last year and had over-advances coming to them. The Simonson clip, one of the larger ones in the state, is reported sold, but there are various stories as to the price, ranging from 18½ to 20 cents. At Douglas about 300,000 pounds

of 1920-clip wools have been sold to Boston and Chicago houses during the last two weeks at 16 to 18 cents. A few new clips have also sold at the same prices. The Platte Valley clip was sold at 17 cents to a Chicago house. Some of the larger clips are still held in the hope of a higher market in the fall; others will undoubtedly sell during the next thirty days. There are several buyers in central Wyoming willing to spend their money at these figures, which are below 1914 levels in spite of a tariff on wool and high-price level on many other commodities. There are several more Eastern representatives that are more willing to take wool on shares than to take any chances.

There is no trading in sheep, nor has a sound been heard from feeders. Contracting, of either lambs or wool, is history. Lambs should be good weight this fall, with a larger percentage of killers than usual. Whether any enforced liquidation of ewes will occur will depend altogether upon the banks and more especially upon the Eastern financial sources which have usually handled live-stock paper. If ewe bands are maintained there will be some demand for bucks, mostly Rambouillets, as the discrimination of wool buyers against low wools is not helping the demand for long wools; but prices will be on a level with those for wool and other sheep.

Expenses are being reduced, and labor will get another cut this fall. The recent slash in crude oil prices is causing big reductions in payrolls in those sections which have heretofore raised wages for the sheepmen. By fall there will be plenty of men wanting work and willing to do it at wages which will be nearer in keeping with live stock prices. At the same time wool and mutton must bring more than they are now or many other commodities must come down. As it is now wool does not pay the expense of raising, say nothing of profit or even wages for the owner. Maybe it will be better pretty soon. That's what we are all hoping. Roscoe M. Wood.

IDAHO PLANNING FOR MARKETING OF 1922 WOOLS

Idaho wool growers are making an early start for co-operative action in handling next year's wools. The secretary of the State Farm Bureau recently announced that six well known wool growers had agreed to serve on a committee to prepare a plan that would answer the requirements. The character of the men selected and the early beginning made is assurance that a workable plan will be offered and with the additional support of the bureau, whatever plan is adopted, should be widely patronized. There can be no doubt as to the soundness and value of co-operative wool handling. The attempts so far made have had much to contend with but progress is being made and Idaho's move will be looked upon by other states with a great deal of interest. The idea is not entirely new in the Gem state, as increasing amounts of farm wools have been handled co-operatively during the past three seasons under the direction of E. F. Rinehart of the Agricultural Extension Service.

The new committeemen are:

C. C. Clay, Riggins; Andy Little, Emmett; Hugh Sproat, Boise; H. G. Peckham, Wilder; Fred W. Gooding, Shoshone; H. H. Schildman, Filer; G. W. McKinley, Rexburg.

SHEARING RATES IN 1921

The close of the shearing season shows that those who expected troublesome times at the shearing corrals have not been disappointed. Some California and Nevada owners started the season on a 15-cent basis. This figure was later reduced in the same territories as a result of the willingness of other hands to do the work at a lower figure. Some early jobs were finished in Utah at 8 and 9 cents per head with board; later, Utah work was done at 10 cents with board furnished in some cases and in others charged for at the rate of \$1 per day.

Some of the earlier work along the

line of the Union Pacific in Wyoming was started at 10 cents. An effort of the shearers to obtain 12½ cents was unsuccessful and a good part of the later shearing was done at the rate of 11 cents per head without board.

The same rate has generally prevailed in Idaho and it appears to have been quite well established that 10 cents per head with board included is the maximum price for shearing at the close of a tempestuous season.

There is doubtless a good deal of reason in the contention of some traveling shearers; that high rates are necessary to off-set railroad and sleeping car expenses, together with uncertain employment and frequent periods of idleness. It is becoming more apparent that while shearing is a job that requires skill and experience to do

courses along the same line. The West has yet to do a great deal in attempting its education and training systems to the real needs of home industry. The training of sheep shearers to work in their home localities offers a wide opportunity for service on the part of our educators who are not afraid of being connected with education that has a bread and butter aspect.

UTAH RAMBOUILLETS TO JAPAN AND ARGENTINE

Fifty head of Rambouillet rams and ewes were selected early in June by a representative of the Japanese government from the Seely and Madsen flocks at Mt. Pleasant, Utah.

The selections made from these flocks and the Candland flock in February by Mr. F. W. Harding as an-



Utah Rambouillets purchased for Argentine, photographed in Illinois prior to shipment to the steamer at New York.

satisfactory work, yet the price that the wool grower can pay is not sufficient to enable men to go from the south to the northern boundary as has generally been the custom. In Utah particularly there has been a supply of home shearers, some of whom work on only a few runs near their homes and have nothing to consider beyond their own time. Wool growers of other states have expressed the opinion that it was to their own interest to encourage local young men to learn how to shear. To do this it will be necessary and advisable to furnish a stand for beginners and to give them some instructions in handling their sheep and turning off a presentable fleece without second cuts.

The Washington State Agricultural College has undertaken the work of helping competent young men to learn the shearing trade. There is room for similar effort on the part of agricultural colleges and vocational school

nounced in the March number of the Wool Grower left New York on May 26, bound for Argentine. This shipment contained ten ewes and 23 rams from Seely, ten rams from Madsen and ten rams from Candland.

CO-OPERATIVE BUYING OF FEEDERS

A venture of great significance in live stock business has been made by cattle and sheep feeders in central Iowa. A large number of feeders in that territory in co-operation with their bankers have organized a live stock exchange through which it is proposed to make co-operative purchases of feeding sheep and cattle. These will be obtained in large quantities direct from the range and re-distributed to the individual members referred to above. It is expected that 100,000 lambs and a considerable num-

ber of cattle will be obtained in this way during the coming fall.

A large point to both buyers and sellers of feeding stock is the loss of flesh and weight that takes place in proportion to the length of time that intervenes between the time the stock

leaves the range and the time it reaches the feed lot. Prevention of such loss by more direct shipment is economy for both sellers and buyers.

There is also an advantage to be obtained in the case of lambs through keeping the feeders out of the yards

at the time the run of killing lambs is heaviest, thus helping to avoid congestion and depressed markets. On the other hand, it will require wise selling procedure to obtain full values for stock sold at home without the competition of buyers that exists at yard markets. A great many feeder lambs are sold on the range to speculators through whose hands they pass to farmers who do the feeding. For such lambs there would seem to be altogether an advantage in selling to those doing the buying for combinations of feeders.

San Angelo.—Although the season is but a few weeks old, the Wool Growers Central Storage Company of San Angelo, had by June 1 sold approximately 1,000,000 pounds of 1921 spring, long and short wool at prices ranging from 16 to 21½ cents per pound net. Twenty-three carloads of wool have gone North and East, while an additional six cars were consigned the first week in June.

Salt Lake Union Stock Yards

North Salt Lake, Utah

Over 200,000 Sheep and Lambs sold on our market last fall. Our commission firms will soon be lining up orders for fall delivery. It will pay you to get in touch with them before shipping.

Delmue Live Stock Commission Company

Fisher Live Stock Commission Company

Idaho Live Stock Commission Company

Address: North Salt Lake, Utah

Commission charges on this market were never advanced. Yardage or weighing charge on Sheep and Lambs FIVE CENTS per head.

The best of service at all times at reasonable rates. Correspondence solicited.

Thomas Austin
President

J. H. Manderfield
General Manager

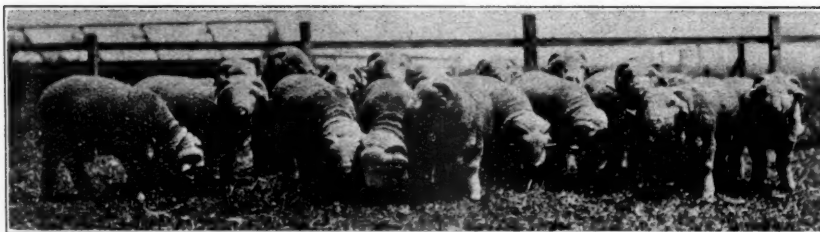
Fred J. Leonard
Secretary

RAMBOUILLET RANGE RAMS

offered by the

Gillett Sheep Company

Castleford, (via Buhl) Twin Falls County, Idaho



Some of our yearling Rams for this fall's trade

Our flock is a draft from the former Hobbs and Gillett Company's stock. We have the same blood and the same type that made these rams so popular with range men.

100 Registered Rams ready for sale. Price will give the best ram value offered. Can spare 100 high-class Registered Rambouillet Ewes.

June Record of Lamb and Sheep Markets

CHICAGO

Early July found the live mutton market on a well lubricated set of skids. June developed a few high lights that soon faded out. In the nature of things they were ephemeral, due in a measure to abnormal conditions. The last week of June developed a seasonal slump, bulk of the native lambs selling below \$9.50 and few Westerns beating \$10. June breaks in the sheep house are conventional and this one naturally elicited no surprise. All through June mediocrity and trash were a veritable drug but in this respect the live mutton market acted better than cattle trade, as low grade steers and thin cows were without a market much of the time. Demand for breeding and feeding stock was negligible, barely enough country orders being executed to make a market.

Comparative conditions July 1 with the corresponding date last year follow:

	SHEEP		LAMBS	
	Top	Bulk	Top	Bulk
1921 -	\$5.75	\$3.50@ 5.25	\$11.00	\$9.00@10.50
1920 -	10.00	7.50@ 9.80	15.75	13.50@15.50
1919 -	9.75	7.75@ 9.40	17.60	16.00@17.40
1918 -	14.50	11.75@13.75	19.25	18.25@19.15
1917 -	11.50	8.75@10.50	16.50	15.75@16.25
1916 -	8.00	6.50@ 7.40	11.50	10.25@11.25
1915 -	6.50	5.25@ 6.00	10.00	9.00@ 9.75

The First Week

The week ending June 4th recorded a sharp decrease in supply at all market due to Memorial Day and the break late in May and, as a logical result, prices went sharply higher, desirable grades of spring lambs advancing \$1.50 per hundredweight under light sorts which meant a better outlet for undesirable stuff. For regulation cull springers it was a \$7@8 market, trash going from \$6 down. Dry-fed shorn lambs reached \$12.50, another deck going at \$12.25, but most of the native shorn lambs of last year's crop were appraised at \$8.50@10.50, feeders buying thin natives as low as \$4.50, light-fleshed Westerns and Texas stock going at \$5@5.50, some Western ewe lambs going to breeders at \$6@6.50. Texas and

California grass yearlings were on an \$8.25@9.50 basis. Texas wethers selling mainly at \$4.50@5.25. Native yearling ewes went to the country for breeding purposes at \$5.50@5.75 and full-mouthed two-year-olds at \$3.50@5.

The Second Week

The week ending June 11 proved to be high point for the season, California lambs reaching \$13.85 and native springers \$13.75. Early in the week, owing to a light run, prices advanced, but the inevitable crash occurred later when the market acquired a top-heavy condition and arrival of the first Idaho lambs of the season at Omaha started a slide. Missouri began dumping spring lambs simultaneously with the arrival of the advance guard of the Idaho crop and a heavy movement of Tennessee and Kentucky stock appeared at the Nashville and Louisville gateways, creating an irresistibly bearish set of influences. Subsequent to the high point Monday a slump gathered impetus, \$12.75 taking the best spring lambs at the close of the week, culls dropping to \$6@6.50, and they were plentiful as killers resorted to drastic sorting the moment they had access to a few more lambs than were actually needed. Aged Washington wethers sold at \$5.50 and ewes at \$4.75. California ewes and a few choice light natives sold at \$5, good 120-pound natives going at \$4 and heavier stock at \$3 to \$3.25. Canning and cull ewes were hard sale at \$1@2.50. Breeding ewes on the full-mouthed order sold at \$2.50@4.50 according to age, with yearlings at \$5@5.60, thin feeding ewes selling down to \$2. Thin ends of California lamb bands went to the country at \$7.50@8, some 30-pound stuff went out at \$6, and 60-pound shorn feeders at \$5.90. Feeding wethers at \$4.25 were mostly two-year-olds.

The Third Week

After holding fairly steady Monday and Tuesday, a drop of 75 cents to \$1.25 was recorded on the mid-week session. A glut of Virginia lambs at Jersey City was the

principal cause, the Old Dominion loading two weeks ahead of its schedule time, but congestion was a factor at all markets, native lambs being cut loose regardless of condition. An unusually large number of new crop lambs reached Omaha and Chicago from the Northwest and as the dressed mutton market broke \$5 to \$10 per hundredweight, live values naturally followed. To make matters worse every market in the country was filled with cull and trashy light native lambs selling at \$5@6.50, to the marked detriment of qualified stock. Well-conditioned lambs sold at \$10.50@11, while mean little lambs were difficult to move at \$3@4. Emaciated old ewes sold as low as 25 cents per head, a good grade of cull ewes going at \$1 per hundredweight.

The Fourth Week

A heavy run developed at all markets during the week ending June 25, but prices were well maintained, fat lambs losing only 25 cents. Early in the week a frothy advance occurred, \$13 being paid for choice Idaho lambs, bulk of the good to choice natives selling from \$12 up, but the close was \$1@2 under the high spot Tuesday. Late in the week good Oregon lambs sold at \$11.25 and \$11.50 was the limit on the best. Cull stuff was hard to clear at \$5@5.50, with trash at \$2@4. All dressed markets were surfeited with the product of common and mediocre lambs, the public refusing to consider it. Feeder demand was negligible, although a lot of thin stuff could have been had on a worth-the-money basis. Some "black face" Idaho lambs went out at \$7.15 and a few others at \$5@6.85, but most of the second cuts of Western lambs were absorbed by killers for lack of country outlet.

Killers paid \$5.65@6 for Western wethers, the feeder end making \$3.50@4. Heavy ewes participated in the bulge early in the week, but lost it all later, selling at \$2.50@3, light and handyweight ewes making \$4@4.50, a few choice Westerns reach-

ing \$5, while cull ewes had to be content with \$1@2, canners selling as low as 25@50 cents per head.

The Last Week

The week preceding the Fourth of July holiday is invariably loaded with grief for salesmen of sheep and lambs on foot and vendors of the dressed product. This time the rule was in full working order. Everything on the list was involved in a slump, except a few choice light and medium ewes which had the advantage of breeder competition. In the case of lambs and yearlings the break was severe. Native lamb quality was about the poorest in trade history, few loads of natives reaching any market that did not require drastic sorting to make them even presentable, in fact, it was necessary to sort most consignments three ways, for tops, culls and skips. Supply of trash was burdensome and could be cleared only by taking any price offered. The only redeeming feature was the general excellence of Western lambs. Bulk of the killing lambs broke \$1.50@2 per hundredweight during the week, second cuts of range lambs showing least of the decline as a little feeder competition developed, consequently they lost only 25 to 50 cents. On the Chicago market thousands of light carcasses sold as low as \$3 per hundredweight, buyers refusing to consider them at \$2@3 per hundredweight on the hoof. Such lambs, also old canner ewes, cannot be considered merchantable product under present conditions, as the money they realize does not pay cost of transportation. Thousands of cull lambs had to sell at

OMAHA

Marketing of sheep and lambs at Omaha during the past month has been on a rather liberal scale, owing to the early movement of springers from Idaho and Oregon. The receipts have consisted largely of this class of stock, varied by small shipments of native springers and a few fed sheep and lambs. The supply of corn-feds has become too small, however, to afford

a fair test of values. The June total of sheep and lambs received at Omaha amounts to 168,186 head, as compared with 131,752 head credited to June a year ago.

Prices during the month have advanced and declined, with the downward swing to values more pronounced. Spring lambs that sold up to \$12.25 at the first of the month, and later advanced to \$13.75, but have since dropped to a limit of \$10. Best Idahos are now quoted at the even money with good native springers down to \$8.75 and less. Cull lambs and poor sorts are slow sale at \$5@6 and the packing demand for all classes of stock appears to be dull and indifferent.

Fat sheep have been relatively scarce and are selling about 50 cents higher for the month. Fed, shorn ewes, in small bunches, are bringing \$3.50@4.25, with culls down to a cent a pound. A few two-year-old fat wethers have been moving at \$5.25.

No dependable outlet for feeders exists at the present time but there is some demand for thin lambs at prices that look extremely low. Feeders received toward the close of the month were shipped to corn belt pastures and feed lots at prices ranging from \$5 to \$6.50, or about on a par with prices that apply to packers' sorts on fat lambs. Something like 15,496 feeder sheep and lambs were sent out from Omaha during June, the movement showing a decrease of about 13,000 head from a year ago. Most of the thin offerings are going to Iowa and Nebraska buyers.

Current quotations on the various classes of stock are about as follows:

Spring lambs	\$8.00@10.00
Cull lambs	5.00@ 6.00
Feeder lambs	5.00@ 6.50
Shorn yearlings	5.25@ 7.50
Shorn ewes	3.00@ 4.25
Cull ewes	1.00@ 2.50

KANSAS CITY

The June sheep market started with considerable vigor, and wound up in a

price slump. After the first ten days of the month, the Kansas City market received nothing but native grades and plain quality here, together with price slumps elsewhere caused the decline. The general trade for the month, however, was about normal for the sixth month of the year. Killers usually depress prices in June, but this year, because of the scant supply, it was a slower process than normal. In relation to cattle and hogs, lambs are still high. The top price was \$13, paid early in the month for Western lambs, and on the close with no Western lambs offered the top was \$10. Western lambs would have brought a material margin over native grades any time during the month. The movement of early Northwest lambs to up river and Eastern markets was heavy and the bunching of the supplies on the northern route resulted in bigger declines than had shippers distributed some offerings to South-central markets. Killers report that Western lambs are unusually fat this year, but natives are showing low averages, and requiring a heavy sort. Fat sheep prices held within a narrow range, most of the clipped wethers sold at \$4 to \$5, and clipped ewes \$3 to \$3.75. Compared with fat lambs they were relatively low in price, but with wool not a material consideration, and the outlet for dressed mutton small, killers demanded low prices for ewes and wethers.

Few breeding ewes or feeding lambs went back to farms during the month, in fact, some farmers marketed their entire flock. If money conditions ease up in the next few weeks, feeders and farmers in Kansas City trade territory will begin buying stock sheep and thin lambs. Large feed crops are assured for this year and the corn belt farmer \$4.50@5.50 per hundredweight and there was an excess of \$6@8.50 stuff, the better grades of natives going at \$9@10, with the latter an outside figure at the finish. Early in the week choice range lambs sold at \$11; later \$10.50 was the limit. Most of the yearling wethers sold at \$6@7, no aged wethers passed \$5.75 and they were dry-fed.

J. E. P.

knows sheep and lambs can be fattened on the uncommercial and rough feeds that otherwise would be wasted.

Receipts in June were 114,630, or about 16,000 less than in June last year, and smaller than in any June in the past five years. The record June receipts were established in 1911, when 163,906 arrived. C. M. P.

THE SOUTHERN LAMBS IN THE JUNE MARKETS

The effect of Southern lamb shipments upon the early summer market and the discrepancy between values for top lambs and for lower grades is explained in the following statement, dated June 29, from A. J. Knollin, manager of the Wool Growers Commission Company:

"Following the rapid advance in the market we have had a tailspin drop. The market went off \$2.50 per hundredweight on best lambs in a few days, and broke even more on common kinds. The receipts have not been excessive at Chicago or the river markets. We note by a report from Buffalo that the bad break on the Buffalo market was explained through heavy receipts at Eastern markets. We want to explain some marketing conditions that the Western lamb raiser does not fully understand.

"The Southern states, especially Kentucky, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia have developed lamb-raising districts as has the West, and has Colorado. The lambs are dropped in winter and are marketed mostly within sixty days, starting May 15 and winding up about July 15. A great number of these lambs are bought on the Louisville and Cincinnati markets by the packers and shipped alive to the Chicago market for slaughter. Others are bought by the packers for slaughter at their more Eastern slaughtering plants, and a great many of them find their way to Jersey City and other large Eastern market centers. The lambs from the Southern district are not so uniformly good as are our Western lambs from the lamb-raising districts. However, they are mutton-type lambs and a big percentage of them are extra good killers. There is, however, an end of common lambs. These, with the large number of common lambs that find their way to Kansas City, Chicago, Buffalo and Pittsburgh

markets from the corn belt states—where the quality of the lambs is never as good as from the South—give, as a rule, an over-supply of common and medium lambs. While we do not advise our Western early lamb raiser to hold back his lambs until the Southern crop is marketed, we do strongly advise that he only ship his top lambs. The packer can buy more native medium lambs than he can find an outlet for at prices much below the real value of Western lambs for feeding purposes later on, and the Western man has the probability of a good percentage of the lighter lambs developing into killers later on and the competitive bidding of feeders. There is practically no feeding demand at this time of year. Farmers are occupied with their planting and harvest, and do not want to bother with sheep until they have stubble fields to clean off. After the middle of July and through August there is a rather narrow outlet for feeders. It is not until September, October and November that feeder buyers become a factor in the market. The Southern lambs are unusually good this year and the bigger percentage of the lambs from the corn belt states are more desirable than usual. While the Southern lambs sell well in line with the Westerns, there are very few of the lambs from the corn belt states that sell as high as our best Western lambs. It is not altogether owing to their not being good killers, but because they are not so uniform and because, invariably, the farmer does not dock and trim his lambs.

"Between June 18 and June 28 we have had another display of fire works, rocket-like advances and then distressing breaks. Summing up the situation, the United States Department of Agriculture Bureau of Markets report of June 27, said:

"Every influence was against the selling side in the lamb and yearling trade today, receipts locally being liberal, outside competition extremely narrow and the coming July 4th holiday casting its shadow over the market. Receipts carried approximately 7,100 direct to the packers and thirty-three doubles of range stock from California, Idaho and Washington, the range delegation being the largest of the year to date. Natives, with an odd deck or so of Western stuff formed the balance of arrivals. The range lambs were good to choice quality but most of the natives carried long cull ends. Fat lamb market was unevenly 50c to \$1 lower than Friday. Yearlings showed as much or more loss and ewe trade, although sticky, was about steady. Eight doubles of choice Idaho lambs sold at 11c, today's top, five of them going straight and three cars with only 37 out. Washington lambs selling at 10½ to 10¾c, however,

were good, some Washingtons averaging 71 pounds."

"Our company sold the 11c Idahos above referred to. There were comments drifting about the sheep house to the effect that there was little difference between the quality of the lambs sold by us and the 10¼ and 10½c lambs, but we think there was a difference and we were glad that we could get the better price.

We think in another two weeks the receipts of natives and Southern lambs will be much lighter and that a more stable market will be had for Westerns.

The demand for feeders is improving a little, there being buyers on the market for the few that have been offered but we are not looking for a very broad outlet for feeders for some little time.

A great many heavy native ewes are coming to market and they are bringing ruinously low prices, 2½ to 3c a pound. It would be far better for the Western shipper to keep his ewes back for the time being at least.

WOOL GROWERS IN KANSAS CITY

Early in June the Wool Growers Commission Company opened offices in Rooms 739 and 749 Live Stock Exchange Building, Kansas City, Missouri. I. E. Horseman, for a number of years head sheep buyer for the Cudahy Packing Company, is head salesman and manager. He will be assisted by A. J. Knollin, Jr., in the selling side and by experienced men in both the yarding and office departments. A. J. Knollin spent considerable time and effort in getting together the Kansas City selling and office force and he feels that he has men whose experience will afford sheepmen excellent service. C. M. P.

SHEEP MARKETS AT SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

Dalgety's report for May 13 quoted best cross-bred sucking lambs at \$6 per head with others down to \$3.50.

Cross-bred ewes sold at from \$3.75 to \$4.25 per head with a top price for wethers at \$5.

Best Merino ewes brought \$3.50 per head with others down to \$2.25. Merino wethers were from \$3 to \$5.25 per head.

OREGON ITEMS

We are having an unusually wet season and both the stock and the range are in fine shape. Lambing is through now (June 1st) and a high percentage is reported from all parts of this section (Denio, Oregon). Shearing is somewhat retarded owing to the rains we are getting every four or five days. However, as the sheep are yielding a couple of pounds more wool than in preceding years, some of the sheepmen's "blues" are lightening up a little.

A wool buyer "lost his way" and went through here the last of May and bought some wool at 15 cents. Aside from this everything is very quiet to date.

Timothy Martinez. Denio, Oregon.

JACKSON'S HOLE AS A SHEEP COUNTRY

There are no sheep in the Jackson's Hole country although some of the ranchers think they would like them. However, some of them say we cannot have sheep here so long as we have elk, and still others claim that the winters are too long as they commence in early November and run through into May. This makes a very long feeding period. The cattle men here have been running behind for the past six years. I know that sheep are money-makers in most places and if they could be raised profitably here, there are thousands of acres of good grazing land that is never touched by cattle or elk.

Fred L. Storer.

Kelly, Wyoming.

Babbitt & Doyle, one of the biggest sheep firms in Arizona, headquarters, Goodyear, marketed 3,000 lambs and 1,000 ewes in Kansas City the third week in June. The ewes sold mostly at \$3.75 and the lambs brought \$11.75 and \$12. The Babbitt & Doyle flock shows good quality and the owners believe in keeping up blood lines. They are located in the Salt River Valley, and the sure crops there make both production and feeding certain.

C. M. P.

THE FALL FEEDER PROSPECT

W. S. Tasker, an extensive Wisconsin and Iowa pastureman and feeder, said the other day: "If there ever was a time to find money where it was lost in the sheep game, this is the moment. My intention is to get in deep."

This is in striking and emphatic contrast with the general run of opinion, consensus, the average newspaper reporter would term it. In the big sheep house at Chicago but one optimist is conspicuously audible and he is "Bob" Matheson. "Bob" ridicules prediction of 5-cent feeding lambs as absurd and expresses the opinion that few fat Western lambs will sell below 10 cents, even in September when gluts usually develop.

At the moment it must be admitted that the country is not buying feeding lambs, in fact, most of the second cuts of Westerns have gone to killers. Usually at this season cornbelt pasture owners are on the alert, especially for mature sheep and yearlings to graze down weeds preparatory to harvesting corn in the fall; at present a country order is a novelty. For one reason bankers are afraid not only of stock sheep but cattle, in fact, the last thing they care to consider is livestock paper of any kind. Most of them are having trouble is re-discounting at the Federal Reserve Bank, farmers are pulling money out of banks to meet current expenses and deposits are diminishing.

"I'm telling my people to sell sheep," said a Tippecanoe County, Indiana, banker, the other day. "Some of them have two clips of wool on hand and all the Western sheep they put in last fall lost money, so what's the use. Sell everything that can be sent to the stock yards is my motto."

"Cattle lost money last winter also, didn't they?" he was asked.

"Yes, and there's a lot of paper lying in this bank that must be cleaned up before I make any more cattle loans either," he replied.

This indicates current psychology in banking circles. Among farmers one detects different sentiment. "I want

money to buy both stock cattle and sheep," said an Iowan, "but none of our local banks are in a mood to part with a dollar and neither Omaha nor Chicago commission houses appear able to help me out."

This is the situation put tersely. The fall feeder market will depend wholly on ability to buy. If cornbelt banks are able to advance money, Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Indiana and Ohio will buy both sheep and lambs. The corn crop prospect never looked better and an enormous yield of hay has been garnered. Feed is usually the factor of primary importance; this year the financial situation has been injected in perplexing fashion. A year ago credit was in the inception stage of the restriction era; at present it has disappeared.

It is an axiom with sheep traders that a new element of feeders comes into action each recurring season, regardless of what happened the previous year. This, in a measure, is true, especially in Iowa and Illinois, but the last person the average country banker wants to loan sheep money to is a farmer inexperienced at the game, especially during such periods as these when three men are in quest of every borrowable dollar. Were money plentiful the owner of a farm could get all he wanted to buy sheep regardless of the discretion he used in buying or his ability to handle them.

As the corn crop approaches maturity feeder demand will pick up. A general impression exists that the Chicago price basis will be somewhere between seven and eight cents per pound. Some operators are talking six to six and a half cents, but their "dope" elicits ridicule. The fact must not be overlooked that outside of freight rates cost of production is much lower than a year ago. Corn is cheaper than in many years and hay does not realize enough to pay carriage expense when consigned to the central markets. Probability exists that fall pasture will be abundant; if so, farmers will strain an effort to buy thin lambs and sheep. When they clamor, bankers usually compromise.

J. E. P.

CHARGES FOR SELLING SHEEP

The Wool Growers Commission will continue to sell sheep by all of its branches at the various markets at \$15 per double deck car.

The question of selling charges was before the national meeting of live stock exchanges at their convention at Cleveland on June 16. No action was taken and the matter was left for adjustment by the local exchanges. The present rates charged by members of the exchanges are:

Omaha, \$20; Denver and Kansas City, \$18; Chicago and St. Joseph, \$24.

THE LAMB MARKET ON JULY 8

Under date of July 8, the Wool Growers Commission Company advised the Wool Grower as follows:

For two weeks up to this week the supply of native lambs has been very heavy and had depressed the market for Westerns. This week it has been lighter and the dressed lamb market in the East is on a much better basis than for some time. We look for a more staple market from now on for good killing lambs. It will be two or three weeks yet before much demand develops for feeding classes and only good killing lambs should be shipped. There is no demand to speak of for breeding ewes and they should be kept at home. Three cars choice Idaho lambs sold on shipping account today at eleven three quarters, the bulk of the good killing lambs selling ten and three-quarters to eleven. Culls six-half to seven. We look for good market next week.

AWARD IN THE PHOTOGRAPHIC CONTEST

The \$5 prize for the best photograph received by us before the first of June was awarded to Mrs. Robert H. Blackford of Wheatland, California. The picture will appear in one of the forthcoming issues of the Wool Grower.

JUNE WEATHER ON WESTERN LIVESTOCK RANGES

By J. Cecil Alter.

The following summary of weather, livestock and range conditions has been compiled from the various reports and publications of the United States Weather Bureau:

UTAH.—June was a fine month over the fields and livestock ranges except that the shortage of moisture in the southwestern portion was becoming quite hard on the range grasses and some stock losses were reported due to lack of moisture. Good conditions prevail among the stock elsewhere, however. Splendid haying weather prevailed, the first cutting being well along generally, and the second cutting under way in the extreme southwestern portion. The first crop was short due to previous cool weather.

NEVADA.—Splendid weather prevailed for the growth and development of pastures, wild and alfalfa hay, and grains except that grasses are drying and rain is greatly needed in the extreme southern portion, and cool weather soon after the middle of the month checked vegetation growth temporarily. Alfalfa haying has progressed under favorable weather conditions, the first crop at the north being more than half cut, and the second crop being taken in the southern portion. Both cattle and sheep continued in thriving condition, with range feed abundant, the best in years for June in some sections.

IDAHO.—Unusually favorable weather prevailed during the month for agricultural and livestock interests, all vegetation, including pastures, meadows and the range being in excellent condition. Cattle and sheep are also in excellent condition. The alfalfa harvest is in full progress except where it has been completed.

MONTANA.—Generally satisfactory weather prevailed, and crops, meadows and ranges made good growth and cattle and sheep are in fairly good condition though cool weather retarded shearing slightly in the third week,

and showers were insufficient in a number of localities, especially in the northern portion. The alfalfa harvest was becoming general at the close of the month, on an excellent crop. Shearing has been completed locally.

WYOMING.—June was a good month over the agricultural and livestock sections of the state, especially in central and eastern counties, though a little hail damage in the grain, and some delay to shearing were reported locally. The range has continued to offer abundant feed, more than enough for the stock that is being supported, and cattle and sheep are in good or excellent condition. Haying has begun under favorable weather conditions. Lambing is about completed, and shearing is well along.

COLORADO.—Unusually fine weather prevailed for meadows, pastures and the range, and for livestock. A great deal of rain fell, especially east of the mountains, and while there was some flooding in the fields, a decided benefit accrued to the dry land crops, the meadows and the range. Warm weather induced unusually rapid growth after the rains. The alfalfa harvest was becoming general, under favorable weather, except for some loss of hay due to rains in the Grand Valley. Livestock are in good or excellent condition.

WESTERN TEXAS.—Copious or heavy rains during the first two weeks, and scattered showers in the last two weeks, with moderate temperatures, were of great benefit to both livestock and the grazing ranges, and with cattle already in good condition, the outlook generally is fine.

NEW MEXICO.—This has been an excellent month for livestock and the range, especially in northern and northeastern counties, where rains have been good or heavy and growth has been rapid and stock have thriven. Conditions have been only fairly good in the southeastern portion, where more rain is needed. In the southwestern portion the range and livestock conditions are decidedly worse in comparison, as the drought has not

been relieved, and stock are suffering on a poor range. The second cutting of a fair crop of alfalfa is reported from the southern portion, while work on the first cutting continues over the northern portions.

ARIZONA—Unusually bad conditions have prevailed over the Arizona ranges, especially in the eastern and southern districts. The calf crop is fairly good over the higher and more northerly national forest ranges and the older stock is doing fairly well here, though moisture for the range and the waterholes has been entirely inadequate. The northeastern plateau ranges had some replenishing rains in the third week, but in the rest of the month this region was in poor circumstances. To the southeast and south, however, conditions of range feed and stock moisture are exceptionally bad and livestock are in a deplorable condition, with a poor calf crop, and important losses of stuff in all ages reported. Some regions have had no green grass since last fall. All herds here that are not being fed on the scanty supplies of feed are showing alarming losses.

CALIFORNIA—The livestock ranges in the valleys have afforded ample dry feed, with good feed in the foothills, and excellent grazing in the higher mountains, and there has been a gradual migration of stock to the greater altitudes where all animals are reported in good or excellent condition, especially over the middle and northern portions. The third harvest of alfalfa is being made in the Sacramento Valley, the crop having made splendid growth. Some foothill fires destroyed some range about the middle of the month.

OREGON—This has been a good month for livestock interests. The range has continued good or excellent generally, though it was in more or less need of rain at the close of the month in many districts. Stock have continued to do well, and have gone to the higher altitudes in large numbers for the summer. A good second crop of alfalfa is being cut in the lower southern counties, and the first cutting

is general in the north and east portions. The crop will soon be ready in the higher central regions. Sheep shearing has been completed.

WASHINGTON—Fairly good weather prevailed though moisture has not been entirely adequate at all times. The pastures and alfalfa crops have done fairly well, however, and the first crop of alfalfa has been taken generally. The weather has been cool in the closing week with additional showers in some sections.

STORED WOOL AND MOTHS

"At this season of the year wool held in storage should be carefully inspected at frequent intervals for moths. If there are no evidences of moth injury now, it is not likely that the wool will become infested enough to cause injury for several months at least. If no damage is noted by July or August, the wool can be carried over winter without injury, unless stored close to other infested commodities.

"In the Southern states, wool is often held for two years without the slightest injury from moths. Wool held in a cold climate would be in much less danger. Cases have been reported to the Department of Agriculture in which wool that had been held fifteen years showed no trace of moth.

"Every precaution should be taken in storing, however, if the wool is to be held for any length of time. It is suggested that a raised platform be built which will permit a free circulation of air under the stacks and thereby prevent dampness which is a source of danger from moth infestation.

Will Examine Samples

"If owners will forward samples of their wool, the department will be glad to examine them and report immediately as to its condition from the standpoint of possible moth infestation. Advice will also be given regarding needed control measures. Samples of wool sent to the department for this purpose should be addressed 'Chief, Bureau of Entomology,' and marked plainly 'For examination for moth infestation.'"—Bureau of Markets.

ARKANSAS VALLEY LIVESTOCK LOSS

The terrible flood which swept the Arkansas Valley in June, from Canyon City eastward to the Kansas state line, took comparatively small toll on livestock. There were some losses, but had the flood come six weeks to two months earlier, it would have swept feed lots filled with cattle and sheep and drowned thousands of animals. The Arkansas Valley is one of the biggest feeding sections in the state. Between 150,000 and 250,000 sheep and 25,000 to 50,000 cattle are fed each winter. June this year found practically all the winter fed cattle and sheep marketed, except cattle in the feed lots of the American Sugar Beet Company at Lamar and Rockyford.

Throughout the valley there was a big crop loss, principally beets and alfalfa, with some grain fields. Whether this big feeding section will be able to handle livestock in the usual way next winter is doubtful, certainly not in normal numbers, but there is hope of a better comeback than the present devastated condition indicates.

The stock yards at Pueblo, the principal unloading and distributing point for the southern Intermountain and Rocky Mountain country, was practically not damaged, and is now in condition to handle normal business.

C. M. P.

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Hampshire Yearling Rams and Ewes

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CAN YOU COOK MUTTON?

The following article by the noted authority, Jane Eddington, recently appeared in the Salt Lake Tribune:

Is it because of lost interest in the meat, or because of lost art in cooking it, that mutton has fallen into a comparatively obscure place in our menus? The part of our country nearest mutton-loving old England has always used mutton, and there it has been more common to hear people ask for mutton cutlets than for lamb chops, but moving westward this meat seems to lose out more and more, although it seems to me it might easily be preferred to alfalfa fed beef, if correctly cooked and handled.

Mutton meat weathers readily—bone, fat, and fell. These weathered parts are about as unpleasant of flavor, when cooked, as rancid and dirty butter. A little bit of weathered part, cooked with a good deal of sweet and unstrong part, will almost spoil the whole.

Cleanliness Most Essential

A first essential then is that we skin a piece of mutton—butchers do it, but some of them are not as thorough as they might be, and this slight task should be done at home. The exposed ends of bones may be scraped and then wiped with a cloth wrung out of warm water, if they cannot be taken out or cut off. With a heavy knife, though a cheap one, a board underneath the meat, and a hammer any housewife can do more of this sort of work than she imagines. She can then practice the economy of buying in large quantities. Let us repeat, every part of a piece of mutton must be fresh and clean before it is put to cook.

A good deal of emphasis is placed on the fact, also, that all dishes on which hot mutton is served should be hot. Mutton fat, when cool, is stiff, but a stripped loin chop need not have enough mutton fat on it, or in it, to stiffen, and if it is served on a piece of toast the fat soaks into the bread and gets eaten. It is a highly valuable food.

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1921 Crop of Lambs Sired by Grand Champion and Imported Rams. Can make delivery on selections from the 1st to the 10th of August. Write for particulars.

My Ewes are of a large, smooth, heavy-boned, blocky, selected type.

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160 Choice, Registered Hampshire Ewes.

150 Choice, Unregistered Hampshire Ewes.

2 Imported Rams.

40 Registered Yearling Rams and

100 Ram Lambs from imported Rams of highest quality.

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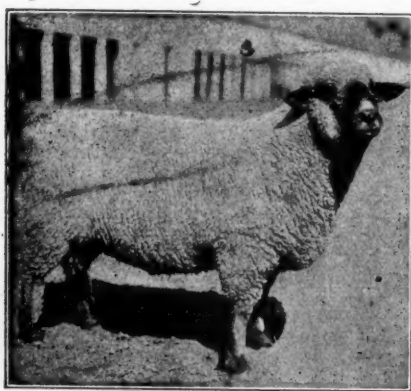
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14 Woodland Ave., Detroit, Mich.

Slices of cold roast mutton, just "hotted" up in a little rendered mutton fat, make with toasted bread an excellent hot sandwich, with or without a gravy. The fat is in no way objectionable when diluted by the bread. Of course, this is supposing that the roast mutton was deliciously cooked, as it so easily can be.

Mutton Tenderloin

It may occur to any one following out the suggestion given below, of buying a hindquarter of mutton, to wonder why mutton tenderloin is never stripped. If stripped at home it would not be wasteful, since all the pieces around it might be used for stew. At any rate, we can strip the slice of it in a loin chop, particularly as that is, in many cases, all that is eaten of the chop anyway. Perhaps the reason why mutton tenderloin is not stripped is because it is small, but on that score we would not cook squab, quail, lamb's tongues, kidney, etc.

Broiled or Fried Mutton Tenderloin

Prepare a French dressing—or what is technically called a marinade—for seasoning stripped tenderloin mutton chops. For four nice rosettes of the meat prepare the following: Rub a large deep plate with the cut end of a clove of garlic. Put in the plate a scant teaspoon of salt, some paprika, or some freshly ground black pepper, two tablespoons of good oil, and a tablespoon of vinegar. Beat this until it is creamy, and slice a small onion into it.

Lay the chops in the plate, turning them in the mixture frequently, or several times during an hour; then drain, broil, or fry. For frying them melt a little mutton fat in a frying pan, and when it is hot put in the chops. When the surface is well seared lower the flame, never allowing the fat to smoke. The time required depends upon the thickness of the cut. Thin cuts treated in this fashion are tender. If the fire is sufficiently mild after the first searing, a minute more or less does not matter, but with a hot fire a moment

too much would dry them so as almost to spoil them.

Serve elegantly on pieces of toast, or in a wreath of mashed potato, or how you will. There are many possibilities, interesting and fine.

Mutton Seasonings

All the collections imaginable in the way of vegetable bouquets have been used by different cooks in seasoning mutton as well as other meats. You may use almost any combination you have found good in seasoning any meat, but mutton needs to have in almost any of the combinations some carrot and onion. Mutton blends wonderfully also with potato.

What is called Irish mutton or Irish stew is often put together just like a fish chowder, with mutton taking the place of fish with the layers of potatoes and onion. Of course, we get added flavor and quality by first searing the mutton for any stew or ragout.

The combination of dried beans soaked up and cooked with mutton is good, if the beans are well managed, otherwise it is one of the hateful penitential things, since beans wrongly stewed have a strong odor and unappealing flavor.

Roast Loin of Mutton with Bananas

One carrot or two put through the food chopper, followed by half a green pepper, two onions, and three or four stalks of celery, make a good seasoning mixture, when bound together with a little melted butter, salted lightly, and otherwise seasoned to taste. Put the mixture into the inside of the prepared loin, roll the flank end around it, and fasten the roll thus made with skewers or a string. Put on a rack in the pan with some peeled bananas in the pan, pour some hot fat over, put in a hot oven, and lower the heat after a few minutes. Baste several times

during the hour and a quarter of roasting. The vegetables may be put in the bottom of the pan and the roast over them, without rolling it, or it may be boned and rolled. Prepare it by taking off any fat on the inside and removing the fell and any weathered edges and bone, then wiping.

Roast Leg of Mutton

The same seasoning may be used for the leg of mutton or more frequently the upper half of it. If no seasoning at all except pepper and salt is used, with some basting fat, the meat must be made scrupulously clean. After removing skin and some parts of fat—leg fat is softer and better rendered for some purposes than kidney fat—the whole should be wiped with a clean cloth wet in warm water.

Hindquarter of Mutton

Here is a proposition: Let any woman with a family which asks for much meat, probably more than is good for them, buy a hindquarter of mutton—about ten pounds—and go

about seeing what she can do with it. Of course, she will be well off if she has a cool place to hang the leg, the shank end keeping best and to be used last. Meats do not keep well where they touch a folded part or another piece of meat.

I purchased a hindquarter like this recently, and it cost a third less per pound—less per pound in quantity also—than any lamb I have purchased recently. I divided the cut into what were practically three equal parts, and took a chop or cutlet from each part. Two-thirds of it, nearly, might have been cut in chops.

I took off the loin and roasted it, then divided the leg in half and roasted the upper half of that. The shank was boiled with a seasoning of vegetables—the same four as mentioned for the loin roast. One quart of boiling water per pound was used, but perhaps cold water would have made the liquid into a better broth.

Minced Mutton

Boiled mutton, well seasoned in the

cooking makes a soft and most pleasant mince, but, of course, it is not equal to a mince of roast lamb with its flavors from browned surfaces. No meat boiled is equal in flavor to a roast, so it is unjust to condemn boiled mutton. If flavored by the vegetables and if the leg is well tied before the cooking—never real boiling, but cooking at a simmering temperature—it is good for a number of made dishes.

For the mince put slices of it through the fine knife of the food chopper, then heat up in a little of the broth, season to taste, and serve on toast or as you choose. A few drops of lemon juice or something similar adds greatly to its quality, if put on just before it is eaten.

Any number of additions may be made to this, and the liquid may be thickened before the two are put together. It is a good plan to start with the simple mince heated in some of the broth and then branch out in making variations to taste. Remember how good it may be warmed up in the middle of a mass of potato, or otherwise

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Marinated Mutton

Cold roast mutton may be as "tasty" as cold turkey or chicken, if it has been well seasoned in the cooking, and a great number of adaptations of it may be made. It is sometimes eaten with mayonnaise, but it is excellent if allowed to stand for an hour in a French dressing (a marinade). Cold boiled mutton may be seasoned in the same way and be good. For a hearty salad one or two slices of this meat on the side of the plate or as a garnish for green things may be recommended.

Experimenting with Mutton

A study of the old ways of cooking mutton may leave us quite bewildered by their endlessness, unless we keep in mind certain fundamental facts and principles. Even the reading of from fifty to a hundred of these is quite exhausting, as I know from experience. It is better to read until we find something that we intend to try and perhaps revise, then to stop and try that,

taking up the reading task later.

If we choose to try out some of the old recipes, or make up new ones after reading a lot, modernizing old ones at any rate in some way, we shall find that some give much pleasanter results than others, and, according to our best modern practices, we shall hold fast to the pleasantest ones, as our mothers and grandmothers did not always do.

It is a well known fact that some of the housekeepers of the old school liked to inflict penitential dinners on their families, giving them hated boiled dinners for the sake of the easy and pleasant hash the next day—or hashes. Perhaps they gave poor boiled mutton, too, because there were so many ways of utilizing the remainders.

However, we have reason to believe that mutton of old was rather well cooked. We are likely to find five recipes for cooking mutton in our old cook books where there is one for lamb. But mutton "as it is cooked" today in many places is despised, and with reason. This is said to be par-

ticularly true West of the Mississippi and among the people who raise sheep, whereas it was formerly people who raised their own sheep, growing their own wool and finally killing the sheep for meat, who made the most valiant and tasty use of mutton from brain and pluck to chop and roast.

Perhaps we may say too much about this "as it is cooked" matter, but it is my opinion that we say too little. I have known of farmers' wives who could not cook acceptably one thing from the wonderful gardens their husbands made, all enjoyment and high benefit to the family from fresh and perfect vegetables being lost. These women have said of string beans, for instance, that their families would not eat them. Nobody would "as cooked" by her.

It is said that we pay more for our blankets and wools for clothing just because mutton "as it is cooked" is not in favor. Mutton does not occupy the place in the America dietary it should from the economical and other standpoints. Can you cook mutton?

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